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Arafat concludes visit Greece grants PLO diplomatic status

ATHENS, Dec. 16 (AP) — Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), said Wednesday that Greece had granted the status of a diplomatic representation to the PLO office in Athens "similar to other missions."

Arafat said that the mission "will have all the rights and immunities." He said the move "means a lot, especially here in Greece." The upgrading of the office to diplomatic, but not embassy level, gives it the same status as the Israeli diplomatic mission in this country.

Addressing a press conference at the conclusion of his talks with Greek Premier Andreas Papandreu, Arafat said Greek-Palestinian and Greek-Arab relations "have entered a new stage from this very moment."

In a joint statement issued at the end of Arafat's visit, the two men condemned Israel's decision to annex the Golan Heights and said that the act was contrary to international law and the United Nations' resolutions. They said the move "constitutes a threat to peace in the region."

Arafat also condemned the European participation in the Sinai peacekeeping force.

saying that since it did not come under the auspices of the United Nations, the force constituted "a new occupation of the Sinai peninsula and the Suez Canal."

Asked to comment on the PLO stand toward Egypt and the Camp David agreement, Arafat said that unfortunately Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has declined that he will follow the same policy as his predecessor. He said, however, that the Palestinians "have great hopes in the Egyptian people and the Egyptian Army." He did not elaborate.

The statement said that Arafat and Papandreu had exchanged views on the Middle East situation and problems in the area, while "both parties stated their desire to continue contributing in a constructive manner to the promotion of a just solution."

They also underlined the need for a just solution of the Cyprus issue, and in referring to the situation in the eastern Mediterranean, mentioned without elaboration "the need for securing Greece's sovereign rights according to the international conventions and practice."

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Review U.S. ties, Kuwait says

KUWAIT, Dec. 16 (AP) — Kuwait's Parliament Wednesday called on the Arab states to reconsider their relationship with the United States, for its Strategic Alliance with Israel and its handling over of the Palestinian student Ziad Abu Ain to the Israeli authorities.

The National Assembly made its call in a statement at the end of two days of debate on a number of latest developments in the region. "The extradition of Abu Ain is a flagrant violation of international law which emphasizes the U.S. surrender to Zionist pressure," the assembly said. "Besides, the action is a dangerous precedent expressive of a racial spirit of enmity," it added.

"The Arab states' condemnation of this oppressive measure is not sufficient, but should be coupled with a unanimous reconsideration of their dealing style with the United States as well as with a unified and serious and positive action."

The assembly held the U.S.-Israeli Strategic Alliance responsible for Israel's decision to apply its laws to the occupied Syrian Golan Heights. "This is a direct result of the U.S.-Zionist alliance, which encourages Zionism to commit more injustices and go ahead in violating the rights of the Arab nation."

"The Kuwaiti National Assembly calls on Arab states to close their ranks and discard their differences and appraise their attitudes in the light of the new developments represented by the American-Zionist alliance."

During the debate, the United States came under severe criticism by Kuwaiti deputies who called for the suspension of Arab oil shipments to the United States and withdrawal of Arab petrodollars from the United States.

The assembly also called for reconsidering the relationship between the Arab states and France "in the wake of the recently emerging alignment (with Israel) and retreat from previous stand toward the Palestine question."

Top investigator fired by Russians

MOSCOW, Dec. 16 (AP) — The chief criminal investigator of Soviet Kirgizia province has been fired and other top law enforcement officials reprimanded for failing to prosecute cases of theft and bribery, according to a newspaper report reaching Moscow.

Sovetskaya Kirgizia, organ of the Communist leadership in the Central Asian Republic, said in its Dec. 8 edition that "serious drawbacks" had been uncovered among police investigators, prosecutors and judicial officials. The chief investigator, identified as Col. Isakov, was fired by the party central committee for "non-fulfillment of 'appropriate orders' in the investigation of thefts of state property, bribery and speculation, the report said."

A senior prosecutor named Orlov was reprimanded for "dragging out investigations" in theft cases in the Sverdlovsk district, and inquiries started against five other investigators to determine whether they should be fired for negligence.

The chairman of the Kirgizia Supreme Court, Dzhamashev, was criticized by the central committee for irregularities in the sentencing of criminals. It criticized the minister of justice, Abakirov, for "lack of control of timely and qualitative monitoring cases concerning robbery, bribery and speculation."

According to the report, the officials showed negligence in prosecuting thefts of 7,000 rubles (\$9,800) worthy of cigarettes from a factory and 22,000 rubles (\$30,800) worth of goods from another factory in the capital of Frunze. The thefts occurred over the last two years, but the suspects, although clearly implicated, were never taken into custody or indicated, the report said.

Kirgizia borders on China and has a population of 3.6 million.

Japan eases restrictions on imports

TOKYO, Dec. 16 (R) — Under pressure from the United States and Western Europe, Japan Wednesday adopted a package of policy measures aimed at easing trade friction and averting a global trade war.

Cabinet sources said a special Japanese cabinet council of economic ministers agreed at a 90-minute meeting to a five-point emergency program that will promote imports of commercial jets, rare metals, grains and oil for its national reserves.

The council, which had balked last month at taking any steps to significantly alter Japan's export-oriented trade stance, acted after protests from both Washington and the European Economic Community (EEC) that failure to act could spark a chain of anti-Japanese measures in the West.

The sources said the ministers' plan emphasizes improved access to the Japanese market in answer to chronic complaints that Western competitors were unfairly kept out of the running in the world's second biggest non-Communist economy.

The sources said that a key element in the package was a plan for the government to make available up to \$500 million to purchase aircraft abroad for leasing and to import raw materials.

The government will also add 9.44 million barrels of oil to the 69.2 million barrel oil stockpile held for emergency use starting in April, the beginning of Japan's financial year. This would be worth \$321 million at current average world prices.

Private firms will be given government subsidies to import unspecified amounts of rare metals including tungsten and molybdenum, to build up their stockpiles.

Israeli action condemned

Massive strike paralyzes Golan Heights

TEL AVIV, Dec. 16 (Agencies) — The 13,000-strong Druze community Wednesday responded to Israel's decision Monday to annex Syria's Golan Heights with a massive strike scheduled to last three days, according to reports from the region.

The four main Druze villages of Bukata Maj, El Sham, Massadeh and Zureh were reportedly paralyzed by the strike which affected all commerce and services. The strike was called Tuesday by Druze community leaders who threatened to ostracize those who did not participate.

On the other hand the Israeli Army, reinforced by convoys of armor and supplies, dug in on the Golan Heights Wednesday in readiness for possible Syrian action over Israel's annexation of the territory.

Israel moved an apparently large amount of hardware north wards Tuesday afternoon and night. The Israeli press said there was little likelihood of a war.

Meanwhile, the United Nations Security Council was due to meet later Wednesday to discuss Syria's complaint.

In Cairo, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali said Wednesday his country would support Syria's moves against Israel in the United Nations over the Zionist state's annexation of the occupied Golan Heights. After a 90-minute meeting with President Hosni Mubarak and his top aides, Ali told reporters Egypt would try to coordinate its position with the three Arab states with which it still has relations, Sudan, Somalia and Oman. "We have discussed the situation resulting from Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights," said Ali. "Egypt will support the Syrian position at the United Nations."

In Washington, some U.S. officials expressed dismay over the surprise action by Israel.

Israeli action condemned

On an American television news show Tuesday morning, U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger strongly criticized Israel, comparing the Zionist state's latest move with its bombing of an Iraqi nuclear research center last June. "It is important, I think, to point out as we did in the bombing of the Iraqi plant, that these are actions that they take unilaterally... we are very unhappy with it," Weinberger said. The defense secretary blasted Israeli actions as being "destabilizing." He called it a "clear violation" of applicable United Nations resolutions and the Camp David peace accords.

The State Department refused to comment on what, if any punitive measures the United States may enact against Israel, saying that no actions or statement will be made until "the consultation process" between U.S. officials and representatives of Arab countries and Israel are concluded.

Israeli ambassador to the U.S. Ephraim Evron, said Tuesday in Washington night he received no indication at a meeting with Secretary of State Alexander Haig that the United States might hold up arms deliveries to Israel. Evron had been summoned to the State Department to explain the controversial law annexing the Golan Heights.

Haig said earlier the Israeli action caught the Reagan administration by surprise. He said the new law was regrettable and inconsistent with United Nations resolution 242 setting out guidelines for a Middle East peace settlement. Speaking to reporters after his talks with Haig, the Israeli envoy said: "He didn't indicate anything of the sort about holding up arms and I hope it will not happen. There was no hint of it in his remarks at all."

In Peking, China Wednesday lashed out at Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights as being in "utmost contempt" of the interna-

Khaled urges Muslims to unite

RIYADH, Dec. 16 (SPA) — King Khaled Wednesday expressed his deep agony and regret over the Arab and Islamic world's disunion and split which has made it an open target of a ferocious attack by the enemies of Islam and Arabism.

The King said during an audience to a number of citizens at the Royal Court, that the adversity to which the Arab and Islamic nation is exposed today is a trial for it to face it with solidarity and mutual support. He added that the assault of the forces of evil and aggression on the nation would not have achieved its objectives if it had preserved its unity and solidarity. Therefore, the Muslims are now in dire need of unity and cooperation, to be able to encounter these assaults, he said.

The monarch urged Muslims to introspect, reiterating that a firm abidance by the Book of God (Qur'an) and the Traditions of His Messenger (peace be upon him) would vouch for the realization of the nation's aspirations for victory and dignity. This is the only way for salvation and the restoration of ability to control the matter, he said.

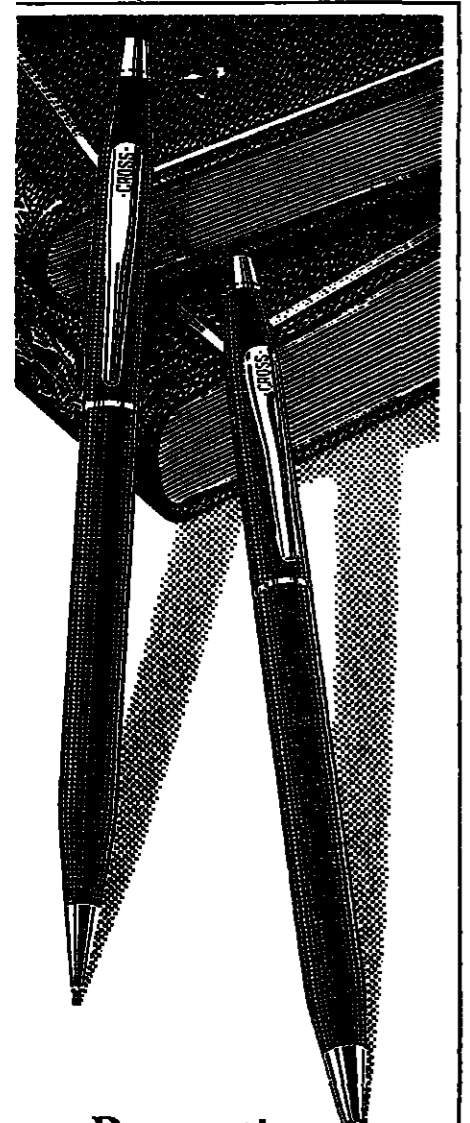
The King called for a sound application of the diverse laws and urged Muslim leaders, scholars, thinkers and the common people to renounce differences and destructive ideas which aim at isolating the Muslims from their faith, values and noble traditions. The monarch implored Almighty God to help Muslims and to guide them to work for the good of their religion and for their own welfare.

\$199b U.S. Army budget adopted

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (AFP) — Congress gave overnight approval for U.S. military credit totaling \$199.7 billion, covering the year that started Oct. 1.

This sum was only \$1.2 billion below the figure sought by President Reagan. It was \$2.8 billion higher than the previous military budget. Under a strategic rearmament program just approved, the U.S. plans to produce 100 "MX" missiles whose deployment details have yet to be decided, 100 "B1" bombers replacing "B-52" Superfortresses, and further development of the stealth technology enabling future bombers to escape radar tracking.

An additional sum of \$7.06 billion was voted for military buildings. Some \$440 million of this goes toward bases of the Rapid Deployment Force (RDF) in the Gulf and Indian Ocean regions.



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To hold on to Sinai America sees Israeli trap

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (R) — U.S. officials say Israel's unexpected move annexing the Golan Heights may well have been intended to end the Camp David peace process while Israeli forces are still in the Sinai. The officials said Monday it was hard to explain the Israeli action in any other way.

"They must have considered the possibility of a chain reaction they could set off," one administration official told Reuters. If Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak had not responded as he did by reaffirming his commitment to the 1979 Camp David treaty with Israel and the peace talks, "it could have played into Israel's hands," he said.

If the Egyptian leader had reacted to the Israeli move by denouncing the Camp David process, officials said, Israel could then have canceled the final pullout of its forces from the Egyptian Sinai, which the treaty calls for by next April 26.

Zbigniew Brzezinski, who played a major role in drafting the Egyptian-Israeli treaty as President Carter's National Security Adviser, forecast such a move in an article published by *The New York Times* early this month. Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin "knows that his hold on the Egyptians will decline once he has returned the rest of the Sinai," Brzezinski wrote. "It is likely that Begin will meet Mubarak's commitment to Camp David by unilateral actions designed either to reinforce Egypt's isolation... or to place the onus of any breakdown of the Camp David process on Mubarak," he said.

Because Begin was unwilling to consider a new treaty that did not leave the West Bank and Gaza Strip under Israeli control, Brzezinski added, he preferred to have the talks with Egypt on Palestinian self-rule "stalemated." Administration officials said they found it hard to explain the Israeli annexation of the Golan any other way, and that Begin might well have believed there was little the Arabs or the United Nations could do to punish Israel.

With Israel firmly in control of the Golan, which it occupied along with the Sinai, the West Bank and Gaza in the 1967 war, it had little to gain from Monday's action formalizing that control, the officials said. They said, however, that Begin was risking a tough U.S. reaction support for U.N. action against Israel, for example, or a new embargo on U.S. arms deliveries.

Dismissing speculation that Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger displayed the

State Department by raising these possibilities in a television interview Tuesday, one official said Weinberger appeared to be speaking for the president. Going beyond State Department and White House condemnation of the Israeli move and using some of the toughest language any U.S. official has directed at Israel, Weinberger said the annexation clearly violated U.N. resolutions on the Middle East and the Camp David treaty.

He said Reagan "feels very strongly" that Camp David should not be interfered with in any way and that the United States was determined "to make sure that Israel carries out the next steps of that which is withdrawing from the Sinai."

Weinberger said that whether Washington would veto U.N. sanctions against Israel, as it has in the past, would depend on the nature of those sanctions and whether there was any chance of getting Israel to reverse its policy. When asked what concrete action the administration might take, he recalled that after Israel bombed a nuclear research center in Iraq and Palestinian camps in Lebanon last summer, "we did cut off the delivery of planes they had on order."

Other officials said the United States might work with Arab U.N. delegates to draft a resolution strongly condemning Israel but stopping short of economic sanctions, as it did after the raid on the Iraqi research center in June. They said they were mystified and totally surprised by Israel's move, which followed a conciliatory stand during recent disputes with Washington over the Sinai peacekeeping force and a U.S.-Israeli accord on strategic cooperation. "Maybe they were just softening us up," one official said with a laugh. The Israeli annexation vote "really came like a bolt out of the sky," he added.

Despite Israeli denials, one U.S. official said: "A lot of people here say the annexation was timed to the crisis in Poland. There would certainly be advantages to doing it when everyone's attention was focused there." He added: "It may be that Israel has decided the best way to conduct its policy is by surprise. That's what they did with the Iraqi raid."

The official said he could not rule out the possibility of other such surprises, including the one many Americans had feared for some time when Israel announced the Golan move: Israeli air strikes to destroy Syrian ground-to-air missiles stationed in Lebanon since April this year.

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Jerusalem is Arab, Fahd tells seminar

ROME, Dec. 16 (SPA) — Jerusalem with all its shrines is an Arab city usurped by Israel as part of the Arab territories it occupied during its 1967 aggression, Crown Prince Fahd said Tuesday.

In a message read on his behalf by the Ambassador to Italy Sheikh Khaled Al-Nasser Al-Turki at the opening session of a seminar on Jerusalem, Prince Fahd said that Israel's Judaization efforts cannot obliterate the well-established historical facts reaffirmed by the United Nations.

Following is the full text of Prince Fahd's speech:

"Gentlemen,

"I have the pleasure to deliver this speech at the International Seminar on Al-Quds (Jerusalem) — this holy city dear to us all. Our preoccupation is to preserve its holy aspect and historical facts have proved its Arab character. The excavations and altering of its features on the part of Israel have been considered by the world as inconsistent with all international rules and resolutions, especially those passed by the United Nations and other international organizations.

"The Judaization of Israel is aiming at cannot obliterate the well-established historical facts or change the minds that believe in legitimate rights to be restored. The United Nations has affirmed in all its meetings that no changes must be made in the city's features.

"Despite this, Israel has persisted in using all the power it wields to obliterate these features and Judaize the city. It is pursuing its excavations to find what can prove its unlawful right in the holy city of Al-Quds. It acts like someone running after a mirage, because it cannot alter the city's features. It has gone far as conducting excavations under the

Ship to be launched

JEDDAH, Dec. 16 (SPA) — The Commission of the city Sheikh Abdul Rahman Al-Sudairi will launch Saturday the new ship "Dua" which belongs to the Fayah Trade and Shipping Company of Jeddah. The ship was specially built to carry 1,000 passengers and 330 vehicles. It has first class saloons, restaurants and swimming pools with a crew of 110. It will ply between Jeddah and other Red Sea ports.

walls of mosques and churches, though it knows very well that it will not find underneath these walls the evidence of its claim for the simple reason that it is pursuing a mirage, and whoever pursues a mirage can get only a mirage. But Israel's purpose in doing all this is to demolish and alter the features of the holy city.

"Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, including the holy city of Al-Quds, and the removal of settlements are matters approved and stressed by the United Nations' General Assembly at every annual session since 1948.

"In the Saudi Arabian peace plan, the utmost responsibility and seriousness have been observed. Hence our keenness on mentioning the complete Palestinian rights and guaranteeing the freedom of worship and the practice of religious rights for all religions in the holy places. We underlined the establishment of the independent Palestinian state with Al-Quds as its capital. Moreover, the United Nations or some of its members would guarantee the principles embodied in the plan. We wanted every thing to be crystal clear at all official, political and information levels throughout the world.

"The holy city of Al-Quds has greatly suffered at the hands of the Israelis. All of us remember the arson in the holy places and the one of Al-Aqsa mosque in the first place. But things were not confined to fires and sabotage. They have gone to the extent of storming mosques while people were praying, which is a blatant violation of religious sanctuaries, an overt challenge of morality and a flagrant denial of the rules and ethics while scoffing at international charters and conventions.

"Al-Quds with all its shrines is an Arab city usurped by Israel with the rest of the Arab territories it occupied during the 1967 aggression. It is imperative to restore the city to its rightful owners and this is precisely what we hope that you will work for at this international seminar for the sake of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East and for welfare and prosperity throughout the world."

The three-day seminar is sponsored by the Arab-Italian Friendship Association in collaboration with the information department of the Arab League.

Prayer Times

Thursday	Makkah	Madinah	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah	Tabuk
Fajr (Dawn)	5:27	5:34	5:05	4:46	5:20	5:54
Dhuhr (Noon)	12:17	12:18	11:49	11:36	12:00	12:30
Asr (Afternoon)	3:21	3:17	2:48	3:31	2:58	3:22
Iqreb (Sunset)	5:43	5:38	5:08	4:52	5:16	5:41
Ula (Night)	7:13	7:08	6:38	6:22	6:46	7:11

Council formed to cut back foreign manpower

RIYADH, Dec. 16 (SPA) — Reducing the dependence on foreign manpower in Saudi Arabia is the government's prime preoccupation, Interior Minister Prince Naif said Tuesday.

In an open dialogue with the teaching staff and cadets of the Internal Security Forces Academy, he said that "if we can find any measure to cut down the import of labor from abroad we will not hesitate to apply it."

Prince Naif said a Labor Council had been set up for this purpose. The council is presided over by Prince Sultan, minister of defense and aviation, and comprises officials concerned with manpower, the interior minister and his deputy, the deputy commander of the National Guard, the ministers of industry, labor, finance, commerce and planning in addition to the head of the Civil Service Board. The council is examining the positive and negative aspects related to foreign labor in Saudi Arabia and trying to find adequate solutions.



Prince Naif

The prince said Saudi Arabians should bear in mind the government's preoccupation and reduce their requests (for entry visas for foreign workers), now that the number of foreigners is too high. He added that at present the authorities take fingerprints of foreign workers coming into the country as a security precaution. "A major development boom is taking

place in various fields in Saudi Arabia these years, the reason why we need foreign labor, but we hope that the number of foreign workers will be curtailed in the years to come as many projects will have already been completed," the prince said.

The meeting also dealt with the Supreme Council of Information, chaired by Prince Naif and other issues including drug smuggling crimes the provincial system statute, substitutes for tents and other projects related to the pilgrimage.

On the supreme council of information, Prince Naif said so far the council had been busy charting out the state's information policy. It will return to other functions

only when its rules of procedure and information policy are endorsed by the Council of Ministers.

The executive part will be entrusted to the Information Ministry, but the council will monitor all radio and television programs to make sure that they are in line with the information policy. "What is required from radio and television," he said, "is to cover all internal events, no matter what they are, and to convey the true picture of every event to the public."

Discussing another subject, Prince Naif, did not rule out the possibility of imposing the death penalty on drug smugglers. But he said that smugglers are usually referred to the Sharia courts and the sentence is at the discretion of judges. At present, the maximum penalty for drug smugglers is 15 years in prison, but the judges can sentence the convicts to death. However, the Interior Ministry believes that it is imperative to impose a more severe punishment, he said.

Concerning the provincial system statute, Prince Naif said most of its provisions had already been implemented. These include allocation of special budgets for the provinces, granting full powers to provincial governors, and approving special budgets for police departments in the provinces.

This means there is no more centralization, according to the interior ministers.

The same applies to all ministries, he said. But the statute was referred to an ad hoc committee so that there may be neither centralization nor decentralization — only coordination or linkage and organization to the benefit of the country and the people.

There will be a council for each region in which all the sectors will participate. The present delay in issuing the statute is due to the fact that the authorities wish to make it as effective and as useful as possible. Once it has been promulgated by the council of ministers and ratified by the King, it will immediately go into effect, he said.

Regarding alternative accommodation to tents during the pilgrimage, Prince Naif said that in the last season a chemical substance was proposed to be sprayed on the tents, expected to reduce fire risks by 80 percent. But time was too short to apply the experiment this year, he added.

However, a good solution has been found — a certain type of non-flammable material to be erected on aluminium columns that shield all wires. The tents also will be equipped with lighting, fans and gas stoves. The issue is still under consideration, he said.

He added that authorities also are considering reduction of the space occupied by government departments in the holy places.

Improved phone bills come into force next week

JEDDAH, Dec. 16 (SPA) — An improved billing system will be enforced by Saudi Telephone as of next week for a better service to subscribers, a statement by the company said Wednesday.

The new system, which will depend on the Hijra calendar, will provide for sending out bills to telephone subscribers in a phased method. Bills will be distributed every three months separately to each exchange area, thus facilitating payment procedures. The new bills also will have national and international call details list.

The invoices will have a maturity date (the final day for settlement) enabling subscribers to know the time left for paying their bills. The difference maturity dates will ensure that subscribers will call on payment offices at varying dates, thus avoiding congestion.

Though the new system will be implemented as of Dec. 23, some subscribers will receive their second bills two months later while others may have to wait as long as five months, the statement said.

Nepalese delegation to negotiate oil supplies

JEDDAH, Dec. 16 — The first delegation from the Himalayan Kingdom of Nepal will be arriving here Thursday to negotiate an oil deal, according to the Nepalese Ambassador Kedar Koirala.

Speaking to Arab News Wednesday Koirala said that his country needed to buy 200,000 barrels a year from the Kingdom in addition to the 290,000 barrels that it already buys from the Soviet Union and Iraq.

Nepal, perched near the foothills of the Himalaya mountains has the distinction of comprising the world's highest mountain peak, Everest, within its borders.

Koirala said that Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal who visited Nepal last year had indicated Saudi Arabia's willingness to supply Nepal with its oil needs. This was welcomed in Kathmandu, the capital, because it will mean reduced dependence on Soviet oil supplies which are both expensive and of lower quality than that of the Kingdom.

Nepal's main natural resource is the almost limitless supply of drinking water which gushes out of the Himalayan range to feed the rivers of India and Bangladesh. Its foreign exchange earning power is limited to a few exports like handicraft, carpets, and spices.

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BRIEFS

RIYADH, (SPA) — Communications Minister Sheikh Hussein Mansouri signed Wednesday two contracts for building the Bisha-to-Raniah road. The contracts, amounting to SR169.3 million, were awarded to a national company. The road is expected to be completed within a period of 32 months providing a direct link between Raniah and the road to Taif.

JEDDAH, — The Saudi Arabian Public Transport Company will provide 1,095 more seats for men in an effort to improve bus services inside the city. The additional seats will be made available by transferring 15 double-decker buses to the Jeddah service from Riyadh. In addition, some 1,208 seats will be provided for male passengers shortly by removing the women's partitions in 150 single-deck buses. A further improvement will be maintained by increasing the service frequency on some routes, SAFTCO officials said Tuesday.

MADINAH, (SPA) — The Communications Ministry is building 235 kilometers of agricultural roads here at the cost of SR33 million, Taleb Al-Shahri, director of Madinah's Road Department, said Wednesday. Other agricultural roads are planned in Nakheel and Duthayr. The 90 kilometers of road will cost SR16 million, he said.

RIYADH, (SPA) — Abdullah Bishara, secretary general of the Gulf Cooperation Council left here for Sharjah Wednesday to attend a three-day seminar on "The Present Condition of Local Manpower." The seminar also will discuss housing and recruitment policies, their effect on manpower, the role of the private sector in creating employment and recruiting local manpower, and measures to promote vocational training.

TUNIS, (SPA) — Sheikh Abdul Wahhab Abdul Wase, minister of pilgrimage and endowments, toured Tuesday Minister province where he visited a picture and historical documents exhibition. He also inspected the Islamic Arts museum and was briefed on the various features of Islamic culture in Tunisia.

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Prince Abdullah declares

Plan sums up Arab, U.N. decisions

RIYADH, Dec. 16 (SPA) — Prince Abdullah, second deputy premier and commander of the National Guard, has reiterated that the Saudi Arabian peace plan is a complete summary of all U.N. and Arab summit resolutions.

In an interview published Wednesday in the London-based *Al-Arab* newspaper and the local *Al-Jazirah* daily, Prince Abdullah said that Arab solidarity constitutes the main pivot of the Kingdom's policy, especially as the Arabs are in complete agreement on the strategic objectives. He emphasized that marginal differences should not eclipse the Arab vision of their essential issues on which they unanimously agree, and also that the Arabs should not allow their rifts to drain out their energies.

After the Arab rejection of the Camp David accords, the prince said, Arabs should not have felt contented with that, but should have striven to disallow Israel from pursuing its policy. With this in view, the Kingdom put

forward a plan that combined the international consensus and the Arab right, with a full sense of historic responsibility toward future generations, he added.

Prince Abdullah said that the Saudi Arabian initiative has now become a purely Arab plan, having been well received by the Secretariat General of the Arab League. On the whole, the plan is open to amendment, change, or even abrogation, "but the important thing is that we should not remain inert in a moving world and should not allow our basic issues to be played about like cards by the major powers from the East or the West," he added.

On the nature of relations between Saudi Arabia and Libya, Prince Abdullah said the Kingdom considers the Libyan people as Arabs and Muslims, a power for Arabs and Muslims and a basic partner in building the present and determining the features of the future.

Referring to the American Middle East

MWL denounces Golan annexation

MAKKAH, Dec. 16 (SPA) — Sheikh Muhammad Ali Al-Harakan, Muslim World League secretary general, Wednesday denounced the decision of the Israeli parliament (Knesset) to annex Golan to the occupied territories.

After the Zionist declaration to make Jerusalem the perpetual capital of Israel, Harakan said this new action constitutes the height of challenge to the Islamic nation and all international norms and principles and also to the historic rights of the Palestinian people. He reiterated that the Golan will remain a part of Syria, and its status cannot be altered by the Israeli Knesset's resolution.

nor by the Zionist occupation forces.

Harakan urged Muslims to unite and to stand firm in the face of Israel, as force is the only method that can stop the Zionist intransigence and ambitions, he said. He also appealed to the world conscience and international organizations to support the Arab nation in its just and legitimate causes.

Major surgeries performed here

JEDDAH, Dec. 16 (SPA) — The new General Hospital has carried out 119 cardiographic tests, 41 open heart surgeries and four operations for the regulation of heart beats during the past five months, it was stated here Wednesday.

Dr. Hassan Raffah, head of the heart surgery department, stated that, since the opening of the department, 95 heart operations have been successfully performed. Of these, 81 were open heart surgeries and the remaining 14 normal surgeries.

He said that the department is equipped with sophisticated instruments. The equipping of the cardiographic center alone has cost SR6.5 million, he added.

policy, he said there is, of course, some unrest in the American public opinion owing to the Zionist lobby's excessive exercise of its influence in determining and guiding the American foreign policy. He urged the Arabs to benefit from the opportunity provided by Israeli Premier Menahem Begin's intransigence, which has opened for them many outlets toward the American public opinion and, hence, the U.S. administration. He said the opportunity ought to be exploited to widen the American knowledge of the fairest of the Arab issue and also to enlighten them on their special interests in the Arab world.

Prince Abdullah described Israel's violation of the Kingdom's air space as a "reflection of Israel's aggressive mentality represented by Mehabem Begin." He said the Israelis have lived against the laws of history and society, and have not only usurped the Arab land but have gone further to keep the Arabs in a state of panic and concern. They

murdered some Arab scholars and destroyed the nuclear reactor in Iraq. They have recently protested to the U.S. for supplying the Arabs some spare parts for the Arab satellite, the prince said. He added that the Israelis now concentrate their efforts in the West, in order to close the door for Arab students aspiring to specialize in applied sciences and technology.

On the Iraq-Iran war, Prince Abdullah said it was an "Islamic tragedy unparalleled in contemporary history." He urged Muslims to strive to put an end to this war as early as possible, and appealed to both Iraq and Iran to resort to divine injunctions and to respond favorably to the Islamic efforts being exerted to end the war in which neither will be victor or vanquished.

The prince expressed regret on the Iranian revolution's drift from its course and said that the Kingdom was the first country to welcome this revolution and had, in fact, pinned great hopes on it to remove the hurdles and join the Islamic fold. He said "we have been surprised by Iran's new constitution which consecrates sectarianism, as well as by its tyrannical attacks, bloody acts and irresponsible activities in our Arab world."

Answering a question on laying down an advisory (Shoura) system, Prince Abdullah said "we are in the process of completing the project soon. As regards the system (of government), it will be based on our perpetual constitution, which is the Holy Quran," he added.

Society elects board under Abdul Majeed

TABUK, Dec. 16 (SPA) — Tabuk's multi-purpose agricultural cooperative society held a meeting here Wednesday under Tabuk Governor Prince Abdul Majeed, the society's chairman.

The participating members were briefed on the activities of the provisional board of directors. Later, a new board of directors was elected. Prince Abdul Majeed was elected board chairman; Madani Muhammad Amin, finance director, as deputy chairman; Abdul Aziz Al-Farshouti, director of Agriculture Ministry's branch office, as secretary, and Saleh Abdul Hamid, director of claims, as treasurer.

The members discussed the society's work progress, the availability of fertilizers and seeds, the setting up of nurseries, besides a number of other activities undertaken by the society.

In another development, Minister of Agriculture and Water Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Sheikh met with Dr. Abdullah Al-Quwaiz, assistant secretary general for Gulf Cooperation Council,

in Riyadh Wednesday. They discussed topics to be dealt with at the meeting of the agriculture ministers of the Gulf and Arab Peninsula states, which is scheduled to be held in Bahrain early in March. They also explored the possibility of the GCC general secretariat's participation in the meeting.

The two sides further discussed ways and means of coordinating the agrarian policy and food self-sufficiency in the GCC states.

Ports president to visit Tunisia

JEDDAH, Dec. 16 — The President of Saudi Ports Authority Dr. Fayez Badr will visit Tunisia Monday for talks with senior ports officials about promoting cooperation between the two countries, it was announced here Wednesday.

Badr will brief the officials about the development and maintenance of Saudi Arabian ports and the experience that has been gained during the last few years. He will also seek trained Tunisian manpower to serve in the various ports of the Kingdom.

Kingdom to maintain pipeline for supplying Jordan with oil

AMMAN, Dec. 16 (SPA) — Saudi Arabia has no intention to stop the Tapline and is exerting pressure on American companies that own it to maintain it for supplying Jordan with its oil needs, Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, said here Tuesday.

In a lecture at the Jordanian University on "The future of energy in the Arab world and its effect on Arab and international policies," the minister said that Saudi Arabia owns the largest oil reserves and that chances are great for new oil discoveries that would double these reserves.

Yamani said that petroleum is the mainstay of the Arab world. It also is the backbone of world economy, in general, and Arab economy, in particular. He added that, owing to their huge reserves, Arab countries can produce oil for a very long time to come — until the middle of the next century. "This shows us that Arab economy can remain

strong and maintain its role in world economy," he said. Arab efforts must be combined to use their oil-related riches in developing their intrinsic power, he added.

"Oil will remain the prime mover of modern civilization in our contemporary world," Yamani said. "Modern technology must be used to accelerate the pace of Arab development, besides a total Arab integration that would impose itself on the world and constitute a powerful economic base and a solid ground for the Arab world to deal with and influence present-day economic events," he added.

Later in the evening, Ahmad Al-Louzi, head of the Jordanian Royal Cabinet, hosted a dinner in honor of Yamani and Bahrain's Education Minister Sheikh Yusuf Al-Shirawi. Yamani and Shirawi arrived here to attend the two-day session of the Board of Trustees of the Jordanian University which began Tuesday.

Presented by Municipality

Seminar debates city plans

By Maher Abbass
Arab New Staff

JEDDAH, Dec. 16 — Jeddah Municipality has submitted eight scientific research papers to the Coastal Areas Exploitation and Administration seminar organized by King Abdul Aziz University's Marine Sciences College, officials said Wednesday.

The papers, dealing with various aspects of the city, were discussed at the symposium Tuesday, the officials said. One of them was presented by Dr. Barakat Bojnaid, deputy mayor, which dealt with the city's planning and development schemes undertaken during the past 20 years.

Seven other senior officials of the municipality also spoke on specifications for planning and determination of industrial and commercial areas; monuments and sculptures for the beautification of the city without contravening the Islamic principles; modern methods for disposing of garbage; reforestation and environmental improvement plans; urban expansion and beach development; the level of subterranean water and boosting the sources of fresh water for the city which consumes 88 million gallons per day.

The municipality also presented a number

of recommendations on the importance of joint research between the planning and executive authorities, and training of personnel in charge of environmental protection in coastal areas.

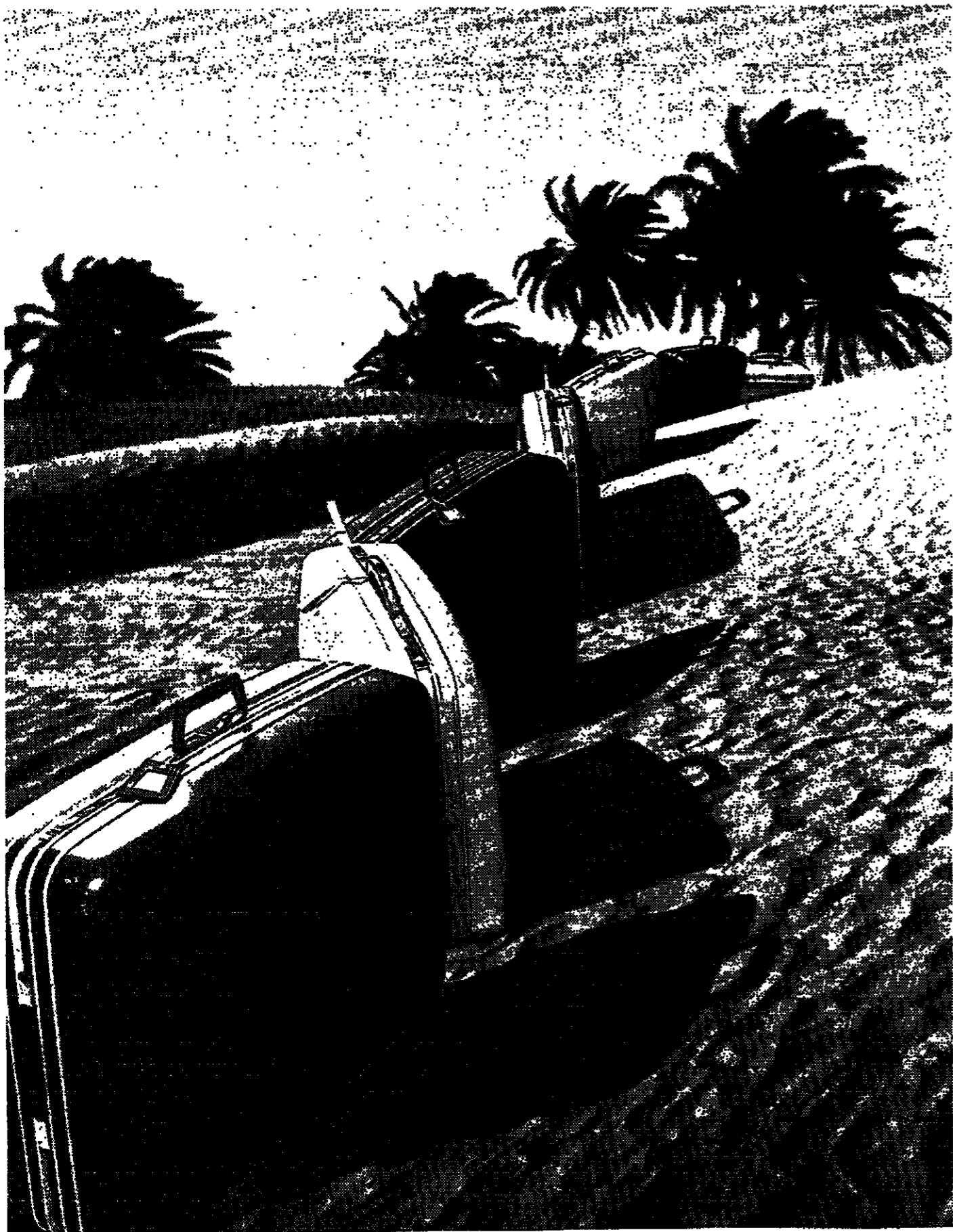
In a separate development, Dr. Mustapha Fahni, director of the central reforestation department of the municipality, told *Arab News* that Jeddah Mayor Muhammad Said Farsi will meet with Western Region Education Director General Dr. Abdullah Al-Zaid Sunday to discuss preparations for the third tree-planting week for the city. The meeting will be attended by the director of schools.

Food, transportation and saplings will be supplied by 95 companies which will take part in the week. Five hospitals in Jeddah also will provide assistance through first aid services on the work sites and their clinics. The Saudi Arabian Red Crescent Society also will join the reforestation drive.

The reforestation week, planned for the end of this month, will be carried out by nearly 10,000 students from 91 schools in the city. A total of 86,000 saplings will be planted, the largest in the city's history. Makka Governor Prince Majeed is expected to dedicate the event.

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Iraq will end war if Iran recognizes borders, Saddam says

BEIRUT, Dec. 16 (R) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has said his country would end the Gulf war immediately if Iran recognized Iraq's "international borders".

As fierce fighting between the two armies on the mountainous northern sector of the battle-front entered its sixth day, the official Iraq News Agency (INA) quoted the president Tuesday as saying that "at any time Iranian officials are able to take a decision to stop the war and recognize Iraq's international borders, agreed in international treaties accepted by the two sides, Iraq will consent to end the war immediately."

He was speaking at a conference of labor ministers from the Nonaligned Movement.

Iraq has demanded that Iran concede complete Iraqi sovereignty over the Shatt Al-Arab waterway between the two countries and return disputed border areas. But Iran has refused to negotiate until all Iraqi troops pull back from the strips of Iranian territory they occupied during the first days of the war, which began in September last year. President Hussein announced his desire for peace only three days after another Iraqi leader stressed his country's readiness to end the war, which has cost both sides billions of dollars and forced major cutbacks in their oil exports.

Last Saturday, Izzat Ibrahim, vice-

chairman of Baghdad's ruling Revolutionary Command Council, said Iraq was ready for a settlement "that will guarantee the sovereignty and legitimate rights of all and noninterference in the internal affairs of others".

A sign of the vast cost of the war came Tuesday from Kuwait, where parliamentary sources said the national assembly had approved a \$2 billion loan to Iraq. This brought Kuwaiti loans to Iraq since the outbreak of war to \$6 billion.

Iraq and Iran have reported heavy fighting in the Gilan-e-Gharb and Sumar areas of the battlefield since last Friday, when Tehran radio announced the Iranians' fifth major counter-offensive this year.

Iraq denied Iranian claims that Iraqi forces had been driven out of long-held positions in the rugged mountains but spoke of facing a large-scale attack.

Monday Iraq reported an air raid on its southern port of Basra, a sprawling riverside city only a few kms from some of the fiercest fighting in the war. Tehran radio said Iranian planes had hit a major Iraqi oil refinery but Baghdad mentioned only civilian casualties.

The first two Iranian counter-offensives, in January and September around the town of Susangerd in the Iranian oil province of Khuzestan, appeared to end in stalemate. But at the end of September, Iranian troops lifted the siege of the oil refining city of Abadan when Iraqi forces withdrew to the west of the Karun River.

America helps in upgrading Turkey airports

ANKARA, Dec. 16 (R) — The United States is helping Turkey modernize poorly-equipped military airports to improve NATO's overall aerial efficiency, NATO diplomats have said.

They said work was going on, helped by NATO funds, to upgrade outdated communications equipment and other facilities, including runways, so that the airports could handle the alliance's most sophisticated aircraft. The diplomats could give no figures for the cost of the program, which was being carried out over a period of years.

The Reagan administration has shown special concern for Turkey, whose military commanders complain of acute shortages of planes, missiles, communications hardware and other equipment.



RUN FOR COVER: Two Iranians run for cover, as Iraqi aircraft strafe the area surrounding a pontoon bridge across the Bostan River, some five kms inside Iran recently. Iranian forces have recaptured the town of Bostan and seized the bridge.

South Yemen president visits Djibouti

DJIBOUTI, Dec. 16 (Agencies) — South Yemeni President Ali Nasser Muhammad arrived in Djibouti Wednesday on an official visit.

The trip by Muhammad and his delegation is intended to strengthen bilateral relations with the tiny African nation which lies opposite South Yemen along the Bab Al-Mandeb Straits at the southern end of the Red Sea, according to an announcement.

"Chairman Ali's visit comes at a time when the area is facing dangerous situations due to inauspicious American movements which pose a direct threat to the people of the area," South Yemen's government said in a statement reporting Muhammad's departure.

The United States recently concluded "Bright Star 81" Middle East military maneuvers which included an operation in Somalia, Djibouti's southeastern neighbor, were strongly criticized by South Yemen. On Tuesday the Adeni government announced it had staged its own air, land and sea exercises with live ammunition at undisclosed sites.

South Yemen, with a population of about two million has an estimated 22,000 troops, a navy of about 1,000 men and an air force of 1,300 with about 120 combat aircraft, according to the London International Institute for Strategic Studies.

Last Aug. 19 South Yemen, Libya and Ethiopia signed a mutual defense and economic cooperation treaty aimed at confronting what the pact described as "international imperialism and Zionism" in the Horn of Africa region.

This is Muhammad's first trip to Djibouti, which is surrounded on three sides by Ethiopia. Djibouti's president, Hassan Gouled, visited South Yemen last April.

Palestinian students in U.S. protest Abu Ain's extradition

By Catherine Raia
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 — Palestinian students in the Washington, D.C. area are outraged by the recent State Department decision to extradite Palestinian struggler Ziad Abu Ain to Israel where he will face murder charges. A group of 30 students Tuesday conducted a sit-in to protest this decision and to ask the Arab governments to obtain the release of Abu Ain.

The students condemned the Arab governments and the Arab ambassadors in the United States for "not pressuring" the State Department. They also accused the Arab

ambassadors of having "previous knowledge of the decision to extradite Abu Ain."

The students called upon the Arab governments to cut off diplomatic and economic relations with the United States in order to obtain Abu Ain's release. An Arab American involved in Abu Ain's ordeal told Arab News that Abu Ain's release would best come about through the insurance that he has a fair trial in Israel which should be closely observed by a U.S. observer. A U.S. observer is technically allowed in the Israeli court during Abu Ain's trial in Israel because of the U.S. role in the extradition.

A spokesman at the Arab League did not comment on the demonstration.

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Iraq blames Iran and Syria

Embassy blast toll rises to 30

BEIRUT, Dec. 16 (Agencies) — The death toll in a bomb explosion at the Iraqi Embassy in Beirut rose to 30 Wednesday after rescue workers said they had recovered 22 bodies and located eight more in the rubble.

About 95 people were injured when the huge blast wrecked the six-story building Tuesday. Sources in the pro-Iraqi Baath Party said they were losing hope that Ambassador Abdul-Razzak Muhammad Lafta would be found alive.

Security sources said the rescuers planned

to bring in soldiers and a crane from Beirut port to speed up their search through the tangled wreckage.

In the meantime, the Iraqi opposition Al Dawa Party Wednesday claimed responsibility for the explosion.

In a telephone call to Agence France-Press bureau here, an Al Dawa Party spokesman said that one of its members carried out the attack and was killed in the blast. The spokesman said the attack was made on the fifth anniversary of the expulsion of opponents by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Iraq accused Iranian and Syrian agents of responsibility and vowed revenge, but there were conflicting accounts of how the attack was carried out. The Iraqis said a car packed with explosives had forced its way into the embassy compound and blown up. But Lebanese security sources said bombs had been placed around pillars supporting the reinforced concrete building.

The Iraqi government newspaper *Al-Jumhuriyya* said the attack pointed to collaboration between Iran and Syria, and warned: "These crimes will not pass without punishment."

"The act is cowardly and mean and constitutes an escalation of aggression against the sovereignty of our country," the daily said in an editorial.

A police spokesman who declined to be named in compliance with Lebanese government regulations said rescuers at the sealed-off neighborhood reported at mid-morning Wednesday they were still hearing roars and faint cries for help from beneath the crumbled building as they strove to locate the buried victims.

Iraq has been at war with Iran for more than a year and is at loggerheads with Syria over chronic political and ideological disputes.

The explosion coincided with renewed heavy fighting in the Gulf war as Iran launched its fifth major counter-offensive this year.

It also came after two weeks of increasing violence in Lebanon, with gunbattles and explosions in the capital and a car bomb in the northern port of Tripoli that killed 14 persons and wounded about 75.

In the latest incident, security sources said bomb disposal experts had defused four rockets found Wednesday in a car parked on waste ground in west Beirut.

To liquidate opponents

Khomeini sending hit teams to Europe, M.E., Khalq says

BEIRUT, Dec. 16 (AP) — The leader of the Mujahedeen Khalq, an Iranian guerrilla group, charged Wednesday that Ayatollah Khomeini was dispatching hit teams to liquidate opponents in Europe and the Middle East.

Meanwhile, Khomeini claimed the United States blessed Israel's annexation of Syria's Golan Heights. The revolutionary leader called for a pan-Islamic uprising "because international organizations cannot do anything," the state-run radio reported in a broadcast monitored here.

In a telephone call to the Associated Press office in Beirut, a spokesman for the Paris office of Mujahedeen leader Massoud Rajavi claimed a bomb which exploded in London Monday was intended for use against Mujahedeen supporters. Two men carrying the bomb were killed.

"In an effort toward the so-called court of his revolution, Khomeini terrorist have

placed in danger the lives of many Iranians and other nationals," said the spokesman, who declined to be identified.

"This type of adventure-seeking has been seen from London to Beirut to Paris," said the statement which failed to specify what sorts of terrorist activities the alleged teams were engaged in Lebanon or Paris.

The spokesman claimed "dozens of these Khomeini armed club-wielders" recently arrived in Paris, without saying whether they had come from Iran or other parts of Europe. France has become a center for Iranian exiles since the triumph of the 1979 revolution which toppled the Iranian monarchy. Former President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr and Rajavi fled to Paris on July 29.

The Mujahedeen Khalq organization is the largest and most powerful of all opposition groups threatening the nearly three-year-old regime of Khomeini.

French minister, Moi discuss Africa

NAIROBI, Dec. 16 (R) — French Cooperation and Development Minister Jean-Pierre Cot discussed Chad, Namibia (South-West Africa) and the Western Sahara dispute Wednesday with Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi, officials said.

President Moi is current chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) which is sending a peacekeeping force to Chad and which has called for a referendum on the

Western Sahara, where Polisario guerrillas are fighting Moroccan control.

Speaking to journalists Tuesday night, Cot praised the OAU for organizing the peace force, which is to fill the vacuum created by the departure of Libyan troops.

Cot was due to leave Nairobi Wednesday for Zimbabwe on his way to Mozambique where he will sign a cooperation agreement with the Maputo government.

General strike ends in Gaza Strip

TEL AVIV, Dec. 16 (AFP) — "A two-week long general strike in the Gaza Strip, occupied by Israel since 1967, ended Wednesday when community leaders published a statement calling on the population to resume work "keeping in mind its interests." Gaza's Mayor Rashad al Shawa said that the Israeli governor in Gaza, Yossef Luntz,

assured him that he would halt actions taken against the strikers. He added that the Israelis had promised to lift a value-added tax that had sparked the strike which then took on a political tone.

Most of Gaza city's stores had already opened Saturday under pressure from the occupying army.

BRIEFS

AMMAN, (AP) — Egyptian citizens will no longer be required to obtain residence permits in order to live and work in Jordan, Interior Minister Suliman Arrab announced Wednesday. However, they still must obtain work permits, he added. About 100,000 Egyptians now work in Jordan.

MOSCOW, (AP) — Afghan Leader Babrak Karmal departed Moscow Wednesday after presenting Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev with the highest Afghan order. Tass reported, Karmal was seen off at the airport by Babken Sackisov, the vice president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, the Soviet news agency said.

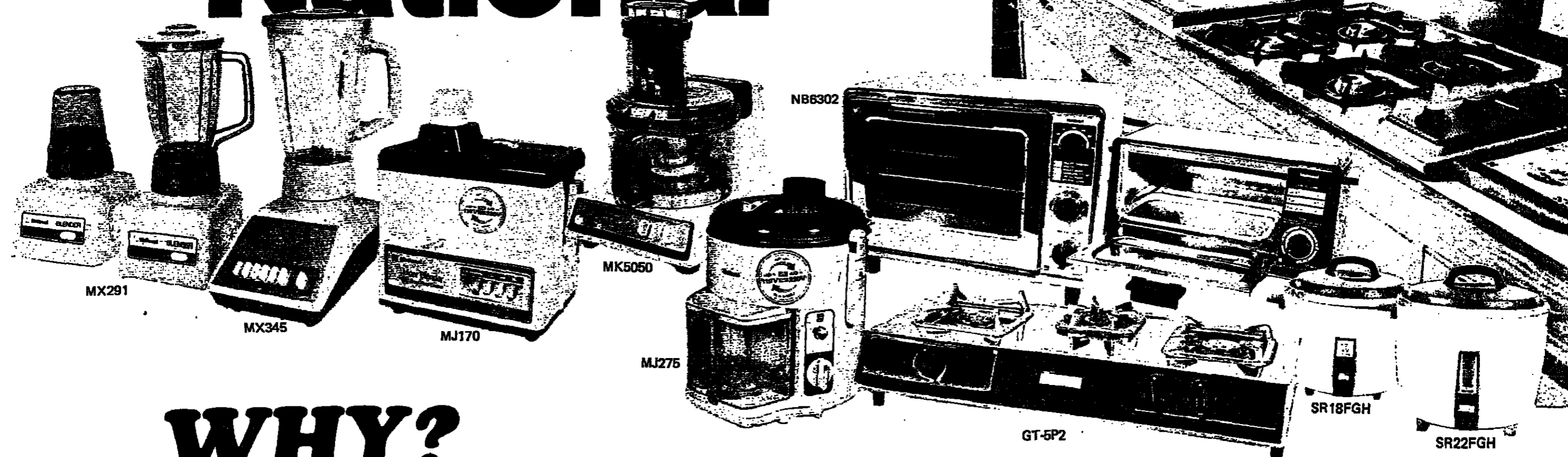
ANTWERP, Belgium, (R) — A Belgian court has sentenced a young Palestinian to life imprisonment for a grenade attack on a group of Jewish children last year in which one was killed and 16 wounded. The court heard that Al-Said Nasser, 25, threw two hand grenades at the children in July, 1980, as they were boarding a bus to go on holiday, killing 15-year-old David Kahan.



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Cable: TIHAMA, London.

GOLAN ANNEXATION

The Knesset, Israel's parliament, has voted on the annexation of Syria's Golan Heights to Israel. The Golan Heights were occupied in the 1967 war; their status up to now being that of an "occupied territory" as defined by international law.

The real issue in this latest of Israel's blatant provocations is not how many voted for and how many against in the Knesset, still less it is that of Israeli Premier Begin's timing in announcing and driving through the measure, which is said to have depended on the assumption that the Polish crisis will provide it with the required international cover.

The issue is that the Zionists, having displaced the Palestinians and taken over their homeland, have now moved to annex Syrian territory. The issue is also that the Camp David agreements, of which the United States is a signatory, are supposedly based on U.N. Resolutions 224 and 338 which explicitly stipulate Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

Israel has therefore by its action demonstrated its contempt not merely for the international community generally, but also for its co-signatories of the Camp David agreements — and of these it is the United States which has the ability to force Israel to reverse its move.

The U.S. indeed, has already twice prevented the Israeli government from taking an annexation measure of the Golan to the Knesset. Why has it not done so this time, and what will it do about it now that Israel has gone ahead?

The Arab world asks these questions the more insistently as America is now formally the enemy's "strategic ally". Indeed, the Arab world not only asks these questions but points the finger of accusation at Washington: for it is possible that the Arab world is seeing the first fruit of the "strategic alliance". It is clear that the "allies" have gone too far.

Saudi Arabian press review

Wednesday's newspapers commented on the worldwide unanimous rejection of the Israeli decision to annex the Golan Heights. The decision to annex the Golan Heights has come as a new challenge, as a result of absence of a unanimous Arab stand on the Middle East issue.

"The basic objective of Saudi Arabia at the Fez Arab summit by introducing its peace plan was to forge unity and solidarity among the Arab states and formulate a unanimous stand to defeat all the Zionist designs in the region," the paper said.

On the same subject, Al-Nadwa called on the Arab states to refrain from concentrating on complaints and to devise a unified forceful action against the continuing Zionist aggressions on the Arab lands. The paper called for reaching an actual strategic balance with the Zionist enemy.

Al-Madinah noted the coincidence between the aggressive Zionist designs in annexation of the Golan Heights and the abortive sabotage attempts in Bahrain masterminded by Iranian rulers and said it has lifted the veil of malicious designs worked out jointly by the two evil gangs.

The paper called on the Arab states to devise a clear-cut policy on Iran's rulers, "who are trying to discuss themselves behind the mask of Islam but at the same time they are striking the Islamic faith and Muslims". — (SPA)

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Polish crackdown seen as temporary setback to reforms

By R. Gregory Nokes

WASHINGTON — The crackdown by the Polish government on the Solidarity labor movement was well-timed and may have been unavoidable because of growing chaos and economic hardship, in the view of some U.S. officials. They believe Prime Minister Wojciech Jaruzelski is gambling that he can curb Solidarity's more extreme demands while maintaining the process of political reform that Solidarity set in motion more than a year ago.

If he succeeds, they believe, the crackdown will mark only a temporary setback to the reform movement that is dragging Poland steadily away from the Soviet bloc. If he fails, they don't rule out that Soviet military intervention would follow.

It is for these reasons that President Ronald Reagan and other senior administration officials have refrained from outright denunciations of Saturday night's actions by the Polish government. Official U.S. comment so far has been limited to expressions of concern and calls for negotiation and compromise.

In his first public statement on the crackdown,

Secretary of State Alexander Haig pointedly noted that the Communist government had given assurances to the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw that political reforms gained by Solidarity in August in 1980 would not be erased.

The impression is being given to reporters that if the Polish government can eradicate so-called excesses by labor union radicals, while maintaining the reform process, the outcome of the crackdown will be quite acceptable to Washington.

Senior officials are encouraged that Lech Walesa, the top Solidarity leader, has not been arrested, although almost all other Solidarity leaders were taken into custody. They think that means the Warsaw government hopes to negotiate a compromise with Walesa.

The view held by these officials — who are willing to give candid assessments only on the condition their names not be used — is that Walesa is "a force for moderation" who may actually be willing to cooperate with the Jaruzelski government in helping resolve the situation.

Solidarity recently had called for elections in Poland, and U.S. officials understand why that was

a totally unacceptable demand to the government. One senior official is known to believe that the Communist leaders would have struck a "death blow" to their system by agreeing to elections.

U.S. officials have been concerned for some time that the situation in Poland was growing steadily worse, including increased tension between Solidarity and the government and a deteriorating economy, including food shortages. Although convinced for many months that the Soviets did not want to intervene, they have worried that Moscow might eventually conclude it had no alternative.

One senior official is saying he believes Jaruzelski may have carefully plotted his crackdown, waiting until the time was most advantageous for success.

What Jaruzelski may have been waiting for, according to the theory, was emergence of frustrations among the Polish population over some Solidarity demands regarded as excessive, such as elections; worry among the populace over possible food and fuel shortages during the winter, and development of a national consensus that it was time to clean the mess up by whatever means.

U.S. officials are by no means confident such a consensus exists or that Jaruzelski can achieve his

aims without political repression and violence that could bring about Soviet intervention.

Although Haig said Sunday that the United States lacked evidence of direct Soviet involvement, officials here believe the Soviets did know what was going to happen and approved it. A senior official who did not want to be quoted by name told reporters Monday that the possibility of Soviet intervention is "the key question...that is clearly linked to the future of the reform process in Poland."

Whether Jaruzelski's approach is working should be clear as the extent of public opposition to it becomes known and it is determined whether such opposition can be contained by peaceful means.

To make it work, senior officials believe Jaruzelski will have to relax the martial law and strict restrictions he has imposed and release many of those arrested. What would signal an end to political reform, which Washington would find unacceptable, is widespread political repression such as continuing arrests and curtailing of freedoms. If that happens, the administration likely would reduce or terminate the food and economic aid it has been providing. (AP)

Will Reagan adopt new positive policy in Middle East?

By Lord Caradon

For a decade and a half delay has been the curse of the Middle East. But now after so many years of confusion four conclusions are widely accepted and are indeed clear enough to everyone.

First, there can be no peace unless there is a settlement of the problem of the future of the Palestinians, who want a country, a government and a capital of their own. That is the fundamental unsolved issue.

Second, there is no possibility that the Israelis and the Arabs will reach a settlement on the Palestinian problem together on their own. As the Israeli annexation of Palestinian land proceeds apace the two are more opposed than ever.

Third, there must therefore be an independent international initiative, a plan which neither side could propose but which both can eventually accept.

Fourth, the greatest responsibility in the search for a comprehensive settlement now rests with the United States. Success and failure will very largely depend on whether the United States will now at last promote a positive and fair policy.

The first three of these propositions are now so generally accepted that it will be well to concentrate on the fourth — on the decisive role of the United States.

What part has the United States played — particularly since the arrival of the Reagan administration? And what chance is there that the United States will now adopt a new positive Middle East policy?

From the first the Reagan administration made it plain that it regarded the Middle East situation mainly as a further field for fierce confrontation with the Soviet Union.

The interests of the Middle East peoples were secondary and subordinate, Israel as America's potential ally against the Soviet Union must be encouraged and strengthened by massive supplies of funds and arms, even after armed attacks on its neighbors and even after declaring policies of annexation of occupied territories. The special position of Israel as an ally against the Soviet Union was enshrined in the recent Memorandum of Strategic Cooperation (a role and function for Israel strongly opposed by many Israelis including former Foreign Minister Abba Eban). Arab states — particularly Egypt and Oman — were also to be won over by supplies of arms and prospects of military cooperation — a policy exemplified and illustrated by pictures in the press of military exercises with American planes flying from the United States to drop bombs in the Western Desert of Egypt.

Such aggressive and provocative policies have

failed. In attempting to confront the Soviet Union the United States has contributed to the very situation it feared. It has not made the Arab states and the wider world of Islam its allies against the Soviet Union. On the contrary, it has strengthened Soviet influence. Now Soviet influence is stronger in the Middle East than when the Reagan administration started its policies of military confrontation. Even moderate states (such as Jordan) have sought to hedge their bets by closer association with Moscow.

It is worth noting in this connection that while the Soviet Union welcomes Arab approaches (and, like the United States, is ready and eager to search for support by supplying arms) it has not in the Arab-Israeli dispute matched the public belligerence of the Americans. Ever since the Soviet Union voted for Resolution 242 in the United Nations Security Council in 1967 it has advocated an international settlement in accordance with the principles of the unanimous Security Council Resolution including particularly the call on Israel to withdraw from occupied territories, together with the right of every state in the area "to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries".

I like to remember that Vice-President Kuznetsov of the Soviet Union has sent me subsequent messages that "our Resolution is still doing well."

It is interesting moreover to recall that the Camp David accord specifically confirmed the purposes of Resolution 242 "in all its parts," purposes which are in direct contradiction to the Israeli leaders' declared intention permanently to annex East Jerusalem and the West Bank and Gaza, and the

Syrian Golan Heights as well.

So it is that the present situation remains with the two contestants still in hopeless deadlock, the Soviet Union still supporting an international settlement, the United States persisting in advocating military confrontation, with the danger of a vast conflict coming nearer.

But I am optimistic enough to believe that the United States will change its ignorance and prejudice diminish and as President Reagan better understands the dangers and the opportunities, and that as a result the hope of a comprehensive peace will be realized with the Palestinians free and the Israelis secure, one dependent on the other. That is indeed a brave pronouncement. But the alternative is so dreadful for all concerned, especially for the Israelis as well as for the Palestinians, that we must look and hope and work for such a salvation.

Already there have been indications, small maybe, but nonetheless encouraging, in the right direction.

Late last month President Reagan was reported to have reaffirmed an earlier pledge to support a united Jerusalem under Israeli sovereignty. Such a policy in regard to East Jerusalem would surely alienate every Arab and every Muslim. But that same evening there was a White House "clarification" saying that "the future of Jerusalem is to be determined through negotiation".

Again in the recent United States-Israel accord it is emphasized that it is intended solely for defensive purposes against the Soviet threat and "is not directed at any state or group of states within the

region". Another indication of American anxiety not to take sides against the Arabs.

Such explanations and reservations do not solve anything and do not remove Arab fears and suspicions. Nor do they indicate that the United States is yet prepared to state and support a new policy. They do however show a sensitivity not to prejudice or prevent a comprehensive settlement on the lines proposed by the Europeans in the Venice Declaration and by the Saudis in Crown Prince Fahd's eight-point peace plan.

It is dangerously late, and we may have to wait yet again till next April when the remaining Sinai territory is due for return. Meanwhile, Israeli policies of annexation and intimidation are being pressed so far that it is difficult to see how eventual conflict on a terrible scale, perhaps involving a wider war, can be avoided. Time is now dreadfully short.

Unanimous votes in the United Nations and other initiatives have pointed the way to a balanced settlement, with Palestinian self-determination on one side and Israeli security on the other, both backed by international guarantees. There is no other way to a lasting peace.

Perhaps there is still time to save the situation. But a stage has been reached when the goodwill and constructive proposals of others will not be enough. So much now depends on whether the United States of America has the impartiality and the courage to act in time, to stop the drift, to turn from international intimidation to national emancipation, to take the lead for understanding and equality and justice and peace.

Polish refugee flood swamps Austria

By Sue Masterman and Anton Koene

VIENNA — Austria is threatening to take drastic measures to stop the flood of Polish refugees unless other countries agree to accept them in greater numbers.

Chancellor Bruno Kreisky calls his warning "a shot across the bows" of the main emigration countries, the United States, Canada and Australia, who, in the Chancellor's view, have failed to respond sufficiently to his personal appeals to increase their quotas immediately.

The last straw was the reply from President Reagan, which Kreisky described as patronizing. It said the Austrians were doing a grand job, deserved much admiration, and should keep up the good work. It said nothing about an increase in the United States refugee quota.

The United States has already increased its quota for East European refugees next year from 6,000 to 9,000. Canada has increased its quota to 6,000 next year, and Australia is believed to be expanding its

quota to 2,400.

There are 67,000 Poles in Austria — 22,000 who have claimed political asylum, 25,000 who are refugees but have not yet claimed asylum, and some 20,000 who are living rough, deciding whether or not to return home. The Austrians expect at least 50,000 more to arrive before the winter is over.

The refugees in state accommodation live in appalling conditions, up to 80 to a large dormitory, some sleeping on mattresses on the floor in corridors. Most, however, have been put into boarding-houses normally closed in the winter, with the Austrian taxpayer picking up the bill.

Their status as political refugees is often questionable. The ministry of the interior believes only a third could justify their claim to political asylum; the rest are simply fleeing their country's economic disaster. Austrian officials do not see why they should subsidize people who, to them, are normal emigrants.

The Austrian government on the other hand, will go to any lengths to maintain its principle of never

using force to send home an east European.

Last weekend, the minister of the interior, Erwin Lenz, said before leaving for Australia (where he hopes to persuade the Australians to take more Poles before Christmas) that Austria was considering re-introducing visas for Polish visitors.

He admitted this would not solve the problem entirely because Poles in transit for other countries would still be able to disembark in Austria, and claim asylum.

An additional problem is pressure from Poland itself to stop so many people emigrating via the Austrian refugee camps. At the end of an official visit to Austria recently, Poland's Foreign Minister Jozef Czerw, protested against political asylum being granted to any Poles at all.

It was "an unfriendly act to Poland", he said, and suggested that Poles in Austria should be treated as ordinary tourists or as foreign labor. Since Austria is one of Poland's major creditors, the Austrians are anxious to avoid offending the Polish leadership in any way.

Arabic calligraphy: "بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ"

Week long drive

Beautiful people, cities, beaches seen in traveling to Asir by car

By a Staff Writer

A road crammed with pilgrims, loyal and devout Muslims. Makkah-bound and stirring with emotion. Jeddah lay vanishing in the distance as our loaded car raced out from the city and into the desert. Hajj 1981 was in progress and the rush to reach the holy city was reaching its climax. Our destination was Abha, Switzerland of Saudi Arabia.

White-clad pilgrims drove on to the sacred site ahead, but we turned right and onto a curving desert highway looping through the sands and out and up towards Taif.

The twisting climb up Al Hadr escarpment is a dizzy throw from one hairpin to another and up and up to Taif with cooling breezes, roadside trees...the summer capital for the Saudi Arabian government.

Two more hours of driving brought a new world, rain beating down on the windscreen and a chilly wind brushing through the mountain terrain. The excellent road through the mountains was full of surprises. Just as the rain stopped and rounding a bend, a huge bridge, spanning an enormous drop appeared. It was a wonder of engineering on the lonely road.

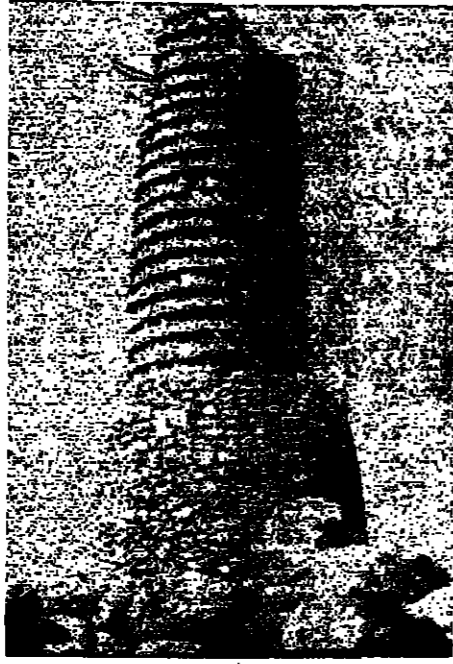
Stopping to take pictures, within minutes a pickup truck was squealing to a halt and a gang of boys climbed out with warm greetings and grinning faces anxious to have their picture taken. The sky was turning inky blue, warning that it would soon be night. Collecting firewood from the roadside and leaving the boys behind, the smooth tarmac was left for a bumpy, pot-holed track which descended to a hillside village of Turkish-perf-style homes of ancient brickwork. This perfect setting by a rustling cornfield provided a beautiful view across terraced fields, stone forts and commanding watchtowers.

Across the fields came running, shouting children, warning about the mean prince who lived over the hill and of wolves which devour visitors in the night.

Amid the cacophony of wolf howls, the local school teacher appeared to send our tormentors scampering away and to bid us welcome in English. Jabal Ibrahim loomed over us as we settled around our campfire and admired the beauty of the dusk. No wolves appeared, only curious villagers, constantly chattering about the upcoming Eid feast and inviting us to join them.

The silence of the valley broke at first light with the cry of a rooster and the first call to prayer. With goats bleating and hens scratching we bumped back up the hillside and on to the main road.

At 9 a.m., in the bustling town of Al Bahah a noisy crowd of men were bidding on the fattest sheep. Local fruit and vegetables lay in wicker baskets at the roadside as corn cobs roasted slowly over a charcoal fire. Everywhere there were the same cheerful, smiling faces. The whole day seemed like a big party,



ANCIENT BUILDING: These old structures were built many years ago. The drive to Abha passes many historic houses, buildings and forts.

not only at Bahah, but all along the road to Abha.

Leaving Bahah at a small spot near Jadhawah, a rocky overlook provides spectacular views of the region. Eagles soar overhead in a silent blue sky.

Nearing Abha, beautiful, pastel-shaded houses appear. Arriving at the regional capital at four, it was easy to find a quiet camp site just off Jizan Road. Enormous boulders provided natural shelter.

The small souk in a large town was bursting at the seams in the last minute rush in preparation for Eid feast. Candles, perfumes, incense and gold abounded.

A wake at 5 a.m., it was shockingly cold and the sun was not yet over the horizon, men were stringing up their sheep for slaughter on roadside trees on the road to Khamis Mashyat.

At Mount Sawdah, Prince Khalid, governor of Asir Province has paid considerable attention to the creation and development of the Saudi Arabian National Park at Sawdah. The result is spectacular.

Climbing from Abha, a world of unexpected natural beauty appears with bushy plants with red floral tassels blowing in the fresh wind. Wild lavender throws its fragrance into the crystal clear air. Yellow, pink, purple and orange flowers below the trees hum with songbirds. Sawdah is a very special place where, rocky outlooks hang over ancient caravan routes, caves are located in the hillsides and dusty, deep red sandstone tracks twist and turn toward hidden villages.

Leaving the main road, a green and beautiful lowland appeared. At a small wayside store the keen-eyed proprietor and a young assistant battered us with questions. We represented another life, many miles from the peace and tranquility of this sleepy, sun-bathed settlement.

Suddenly the boy grabbed our hands and urged us into his car, he has something he did not want us to miss. With clouds of dust billowing from the churning wheels we set off over the hills. Pot holes and boulders were no obstacle as we bumped our way towards this hidden surprise.

Suddenly a marsh, then a stream and ahead a tumbling waterfall, its fresh mountain water gushing over the rocks into clear deep pool and a valley of green. Thick green meadows and on the banks of the stream, masses of wild water cress and flowering lilies.

Pleased to have brought such obvious surprise, the boy pointed further ahead to the orchard with row upon row of fruit-bearing apple trees.

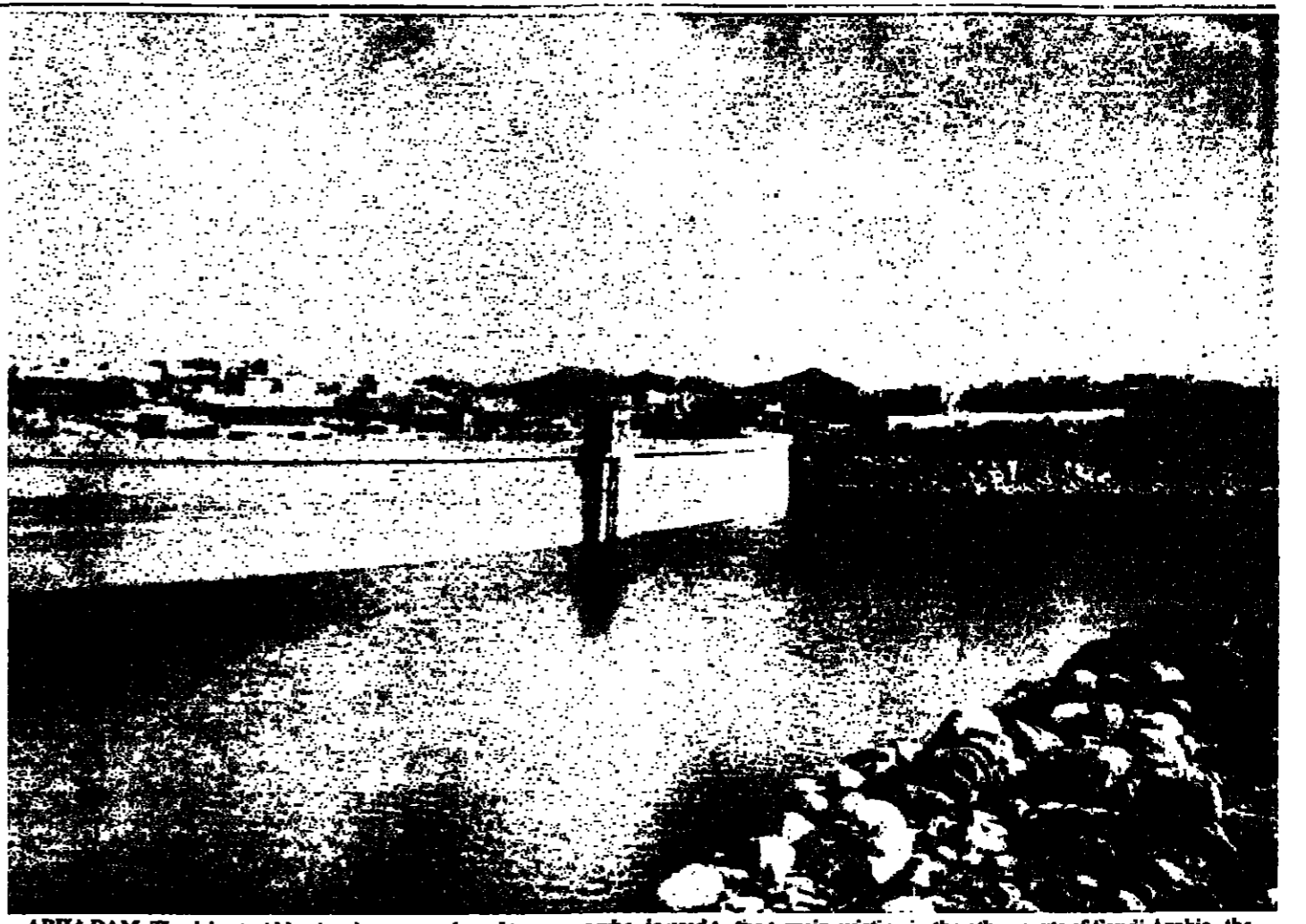
At 7 a.m., after filling water containers at Abha Fire Station and having documents checked by a grinning soldier a dramatic descent begins down a twisting escarpment to the coast. The silent and spectacular descent leads to sea level and the hot, sticky plains of the desert.

Approaching circular African-style huts, dark skinned settlers stare suspiciously and the car moves quickly onward. On the coast road where the white sand shores meet the Red Sea, a track to the beach passes a beautiful flock of elegant wading storks, more straw huts and old dugout fishing boats moored in the rushes.

A morning's drive takes you besides the speaking blue sea, through forests of palms and tribal villages leads to Al Birk and Anq.

A striking group of people in Amq were dressed in deep blue robes, the legendary heroes of romantic Arabian tales. Their long, jet black hair was tethered by woolly sheepskin headbands, dark, mysterious eyes were lined with coal as pistols hung loosely from worn leather holsters slung across their shoulders. They drew slowly on their bubbling shisha, giving no clue to who they were or what their business was. They were both young and old, a mysterious reminder of an Arabia of ancient tales and legend.

Pressing steadily northward, we finally stopped for our last night on a dramatic plain surrounded by mountains near Thabian. Later that evening at the local gahwah we were called upon to try and repair the only television for miles but without success. As the generator was turned off for the night everyone settled around an old gas lamp and a Yemeni shepherd boy crossed the world's radio stations in a flurry of crackle and static. Finally he found the BBC and although no one but us spoke English he instantly recognized that it was from London.



ABHA DAM: The drive to Abha dam is very scenic and to anyone who is used to the terrain existing in the other parts of Saudi Arabia, the dam itself is a thrill.

Cantonese question Western influences; Hong Kong, Macao visitors help economy

By Michael Rank

CANTON (R) — The former Flower Bird Teahouse in the center of Canton has lost most of its charm now it has become a Hong Kong-style restaurant serving black pepper steaks.

Most of the old teahouse, where elderly men used to meet for a quiet chat and a game of chess, has been pulled down and replaced by the Hong Kong Food Center, a noisy restaurant with live pop music every evening.

The restaurant caters mainly to people from nearby Hong Kong visiting Canton to see their relatives whom they want to take out for a night on the town.

Residents of Hong Kong and Macao made more than five million visits to China last year, mostly to visit relatives in and around Canton which is coming under increasingly heavy influence from the aggressively capitalist British colony only 120 miles (200 kms) away.

The restaurant is expensive by local standards, charging eight yuan (\$4.70) for a black pepper steak. After 8 p.m. only foreign currency coupons are accepted, meaning that only overseas Chinese, foreigners and local

people with relatives who send money from abroad can use it.

The coupons are denominated in Chinese currency but can be obtained legally only in exchange for foreign currency.

A special attraction of the restaurant is the live music, sung by girls wearing earrings and long evening dresses which would be reviled as "Bourgeois" in politically orthodox Peking.

Any of the songs are requests from patrons, and include numbers by the Beatles as well as hits by the immensely popular Taiwanese singer Teresa Teng (Teng Lichun).

Staff are nervous about discussing the restaurant's financial arrangements, but say it is run as a joint venture between a local and a Hong Kong company.

Despite their western dress, most of the singers are from Canton. But the singers themselves declined to be interviewed and referred all questions to the managers.

The restaurant has about 70 local staff, mainly waitresses and cooks, and 25 supervisors from Hong Kong. One of the cooks said he earned 100 yuan (\$58) a month, well above the average Chinese industrial wage of about 60 yuan (\$35).

Asked whether the restaurant was threatened by Chinese press attacks on "Bourgeois liberalism" one of the supervisors grinned and said: "We are in business. We are here to make money."

An interest in making money is not limited to Hong Kong businessmen in Canton. The city is full of street markets selling everything from jeans to joss-sticks, and there is a greater feeling of abundance than there is in Peking.

Special shops sell imported items such as television receivers and 'as for foreign currency coupons or Hong Kong dollars, while there is a flourishing black market for those who cannot obtain such items legally.

Many houses have T.V. aerials on long bamboo poles for reception of Hong Kong programs, enabling Canton residents into Western culture.

Cantonese without a television set can enjoy themselves in Yuexiu Park by playing Japanese electronic games for 20 fen (12 cents) a time, or, if they feel like being extravagant, they can have instantly developed color photographs taken of themselves at 4.50 yuan (\$2.60) each.

But local people are unlikely to be allowed to enter the larger hotels and according to a foreign diplomat definitely excluded from the Dong (orient) hotel, the biggest in Canton.

At the hotel's so-called "Dongfang International Club", a complex of restaurants is being redecorated in a Soviet-built section of the hotel. The club would open in two or three months.

Officials are deeply concerned about the influence of free-wheeling Hong Kong on the Cantonese.

"The life-style of Hong Kong is not suitable for here. We do not think men here should have long hair. That is a bad influence," said Huang Kun, an editor of the local newspaper.

"It is hard to say whether the influence is more good than bad. It is bad because of the influence of capitalist ideology and unhealthy customs."

"But because Canton is near Hong Kong, it is good for learning about foreign science and technology and studying English," Huang added.

But some Canton residents have different ideas. "They are very rigid in Peking about foreign influence because they don't know much about foreign countries," said a student.

"But in Canton we are used to Western influence so we don't worry about it too much. Maybe one day Peking will catch up with Canton but it will take a long time."

Gettys won't share wealth; suit asks \$25,000 a month

By William Scottie

LOS ANGELES (ONS) — "I have perfect communication with him: 'I never talk. That way we don't fight, either.'" Thus J. Paul Getty III, after his release by Calabrian kidnapers seven years ago, summed up life with father, Jean Paul II.

Last week the 25-year old scion of the House of Getty who lost an ear in the 1973 kidnapping was trying to communicate with papa through the courts. In a bizarre twist to the tormented family saga, young Paul — left blind and paralysed by a drug-induced stroke last April — is suing his father, one of the world's richest men, for \$25,000 a month to pay medical bills.

J. Paul II, 49, known to his family as Eugene, has an annual income in excess of \$20 million a year, according to documents filed in court earlier this week. But he refuses financial support to his son, a paraplegic who must be spoon-fed, nursed around the clock, and speaks in a strangled yelp understood only by his mother, Gail, and her helpers.

"Everything is gone except his mind," said his godfather, San Francisco judge William Newsom. "He can recognize people."

The elder Getty — third son of the late self-made oil billionaire J. Paul Getty Sr. — has neither visited the young man nor sent condolences. He communicates through lawyers, living as a virtual recluse in London, and rarely emerging from his Cheyne Walk house.

By employing what a California judge described as "shameful, expensive legal gymnastics", he is attempting to dodge a U.S. law that requires parents to support their incapacitated children. Why?

"Eugene let it be known years ago that he wouldn't help Paul Jr. out of more trouble," said a family friend. "He's determined, like the Old Man to cultivate a legend of parsimony — principle before affection."

The O.M., Getty Sr., at first refused to pay ransom to the Italian kidnapers, only capitulating when the teenage Paul's severed ear arrived in his mother's Roman mailbox. Then Getty loaned Eugene \$2.2 million in ransom money, says the family friend, at eight percent interest.

Paul Jr.'s troubles began shortly after his parents settled in Italy in 1958. They divorced when he was 10. Young Paul embarked on a nomad life with Rome's *dolce-vita* set. He drank, drugged, crashed motor-cycles and cars, and was arrested for throwing molotov cocktails in a political demonstration. At 17, he married a 24-year old actress. They soon separated.

The life-style did not change after the five-month kidnap ordeal. He moved to California: More drugs, drink, an arrest for car theft. "He went spinning out of control" said his godfather.

"I never knew my father," Paul Jr. told an interviewer. The two have not met since 1970. "We did nothing together. He went through a hip period when I was about 12, got a house in Marrakesh, invited the Rolling Stones.

Eugene Getty dropped out of the Getty oil business in Italy, abandoned his family and traveled to Indonesia. There he met and married a Baliborn Dutch girl, Talitha Pol. They had a child, whom they named Taron Galaxey Gramophone ("Galaxy because I'm into astrology," explained Talitha. "Gramophone because it's Eugene's favorite instrument.")

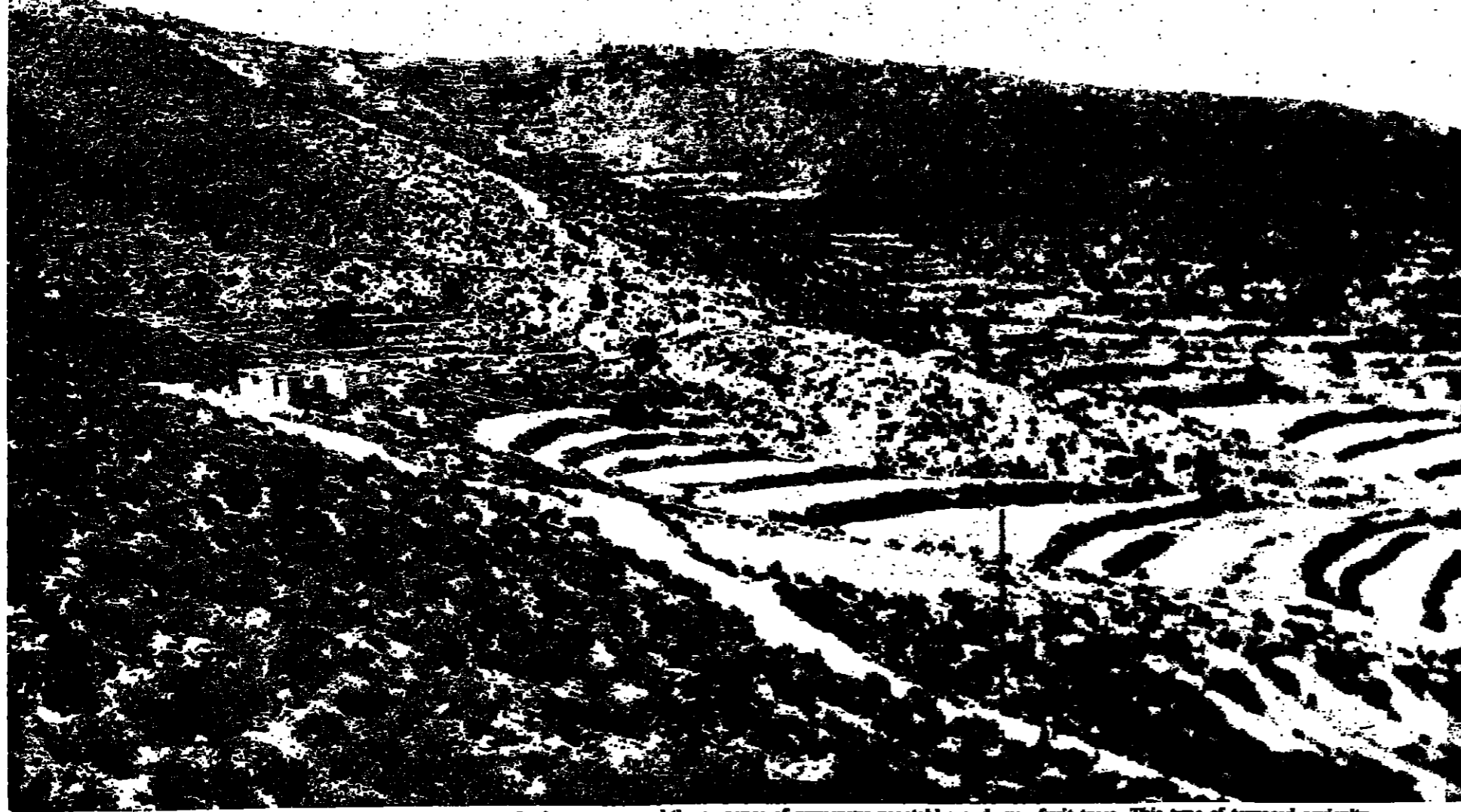
Talitha died of a massive heroin overdose in their Rome flat in 1971. Eugene Getty, a key witness in the scandal, left Rome for London immediately.

In 1973 the family suffered a third drug tragedy. Eldest son George, head of Getty oil's U.S. interests, young Paul's favorite relative and the Old Man's favorite son, committed suicide at 48. The Los Angeles coroner ruled death resulted from an overdose of injected barbiturates, mixed with alcohol.

When Getty Senior died of prostate cancer at 83, three years later, a struggle began over the family fortune. It is unresolved today.

To our readers

A special Friday Family page begins this week in Arab News with informative features on Middle East cooking and the proper diagnosis of skin types. This special page for family readers will be featured every Friday, from Dec. 18 in Arab News.



TERRACED FARMING: The Asir region is well-known for its greenery and the presence of numerous vegetables and even fruit trees. This type of terraced agriculture enables different crops to be raised on each level.

Philippine terraces 'eighth wonder'

Logging allows erosion, causes ecological damage

By Joel Palacios

MANILA (R) — Centuries-old rice terraces, carved by primitive tribes from the face of the steep mountain slopes of the northern Philippines, are slowly being destroyed by environmental decay. The wide terraces, described locally as the eighth wonder of the world, have been losing much of their watershed areas through indiscriminate logging and are endangered by soil erosion and excessive rainwater run-offs.

Erosion has eaten up portions of the surface of the terraces, leaving the landscape flat, while water has become a danger because of excessive run-offs that deprive the soil of nutrients.

The terraces run down a chain of mountains from a peak of about 5,000 feet (1,515 meters). Put end to end the fields would stretch about 14,000 miles (22,000 km).

A bill to preserve the terraces as a national treasure and maintain it as one of the world's outstanding feats of primitive engineering has now been filed in the national assembly.

But heavy damage has already been caused and the government bureau of forest development says that about 2.5 million acres (one million hectares) of watersheds in the country need immediate rehabilitation.

"It took the natives of the mountain country hundreds of years to build the rice terraces which anthropologists say date back to around 2000 B.C." an official from the National Museum said.

Museum officials emphasised the immense manual labor required to dig the terraces from the steep hillside, build stone wall edging and fill it with layers of materials carried from the river beds or brought down from the hillsides. Little waterfalls, part of the irrigation sys-

tem, continuously play down the terrace walls. Water curves round the hillside in a narrow ditch that is dug out of solid rock.

"But the terraces are diminishing... as a result of excessive water run-offs and the lack of maintenance which is necessary for its upkeep," one official lamented.

He said unless the watersheds are protected and the natives are taught the principles of hydraulics, the terraces were threatened by environmental decay.

The bureau of forest development said no logging permits have been granted within the province since last year.

"Actually, the natives themselves are the ones cutting down the trees which they use either for fuel or woodcarving which is fast becoming a major source of their incomes," a forestry official said.

Some portions of the terraces have been designated for reforestation and the inhabit-

ants are being encouraged to plant trees along with cash crops like vegetables.

"As a rule, the government does not allow cutting of trees in the perimeter of watershed areas where shelter belts are established for forest reserves," the official said.

The terraces, planted with upland rice and sweet potatoes which are the staple food of the native Igorot and Ifugao tribes, have been described as a "window to the Philippine ethnic past."

Gualberto Lamau, introduced the preservation bill in the national assembly, said the felling of trees in the watershed areas should be totally banned with stiff fines and imprisonment for violators.

"Educators point to the terraces as proof of what Filipinos are capable of achieving together through persevering dedication and it should be declared as a national treasure," he said.

Mahathir announces new policy

Malaysia to emulate Japanese work ethic

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia, Dec. 16 (AP) — Malaysia will continue to de-emphasize relations with Britain, its former colonial master, while attempting to emulate the work ethic of Japanese and South Koreans, Prime Minister Datuk Sri Mahathir Mohamad said.

Mahathir met with 45 Malaysian diplomats who head Malaysian diplomatic missions abroad, and announced after the extraordinary session that Malaysia will emphasize a foreign policy which seeks closer relations with Japan and South Korea — two nations he said he admires for their hard work.

Since Malaysia obtained independence from Britain in 1957 it has given England a preferential position in its relations with foreign nations. But Mahathir, who became prime minister in July, reversed that policy two months ago when he required his office

give special approval to all government tenders awarded for British services and goods.

Malaysian officials said the change was in retaliation for Britain's decision to hike fees for the 20,000 Malaysian students studying in Britain, and for the other British actions — including rules on the British stock exchange — which Malaysia saw as being anti-Malaysia.

British businessmen working in Malaysia Monday gave 1.5 million ringits (\$0.67 million) to the government administered trust fund aimed at helping these students. Mahathir received the money presented by the British Malaysian and Trade Association.

British businessmen were criticized earlier for giving little while American firms here were donating generously toward another charity fund. On Monday Foreign Minister Ghazali Shafie told reporters Britain could

not impress Malaysia by "offering this or that," but a change in attitude was required. They must appreciate "what we are doing and be sympathetic with what we are doing," he said.

Mahathir said the experiences of Japan and South Korea are relevant to Malaysia's expanding economy. At a dinner recently Mahathir urged Malaysians to follow the Japanese "work ethic." Mahathir told reporters that in its priorities with international groups, Malaysia would place the Common-

wealth and the Association of South East Asian Nations — comprising Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines and Singapore — first, followed by the Organization of Islamic Conference.

Mahathir said the Commonwealth has so far been more talk than action, and Malaysian officials said that that was one reason why Mahathir did not attend the Commonwealth summit conference in Australia.

Mahathir's admiration for Japan and South Korea, officials said, was behind Tuesday's announcement by the Education Ministry directing institutions of higher learning to establish facilities to teach the Japanese and Korean languages so that Malaysian students can go to those countries.

The first batch of 100 students under the new program will begin studying Japanese at the Mara Institute of Technology here in February, and will depart for overseas study in July.

Mahathir said recently the work ethic has brought about industrial harmony in Japan and has generated worker esteem and loyalty to the employer, he said.

Gastroenteritis follows storm in Indian state

NEW DELHI, Dec. 16 (AP) — An outbreak of gastroenteritis and a drinking water scarcity were reported Tuesday after a severe hurricane and tidal wave that caused 148 deaths in India's Ganges River delta region, the United News of India reported.

The hurricane devastated 350 kms of coastline and islands last week stretching from Bangladesh through the Indian states of West Bengal and Orissa.

West Bengal Health Minister Nani Bhatnagarjee told reporters in Calcutta that the state government had rushed nine medical teams to the hurricane-ravaged areas to check the gastroenteritis and other epidemics.

U.N. scoffs at Ciskei freedom

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 16 (AFP) — The United Nations Security Council has described the "so-called independence" of South Africa's Ciskei Bantustan (homeland) as totally invalid.

In a statement issued here Tuesday by Security Council President Olara Otunnu of Uganda, the council said that it did not recognize Ciskei's independence.

South Africa's move to grant the Bantustan paper independence on Dec. 4, following similar proclamations in the Bantustans of Transkei, Bophuthatswana and Venda, was "designed to divide and dispossess the African people and establish client states under

its domination," the statement said. The aim was to "perpetuate a class of foreign people in their own country," it added.

"The Security Council calls upon all governments to deny any form of recognition to the so-called "independent" Bantustans, to refrain from any dealings with them, to reject travel documents issued by them, and urges governments of member states to take effective measures within their constitutional framework to discourage all individuals, corporations and other institutions under their jurisdiction from having any dealings with the so-called independent Bantustans," the statement concluded.

Sri Lankan emergency extended

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka, Dec. 16 (AP) — The Sri Lankan government, citing the continued threat of inter-racial disturbances, has extended for a month the state of emergency declared Aug. 15 after riots shook the island nation.

Although there have been no incidents of any consequence in recent weeks, a government spokesman said Tuesday there was concern about a possible backlash to an attempt by a minority Tamil group in London to unilaterally declare the independence of the

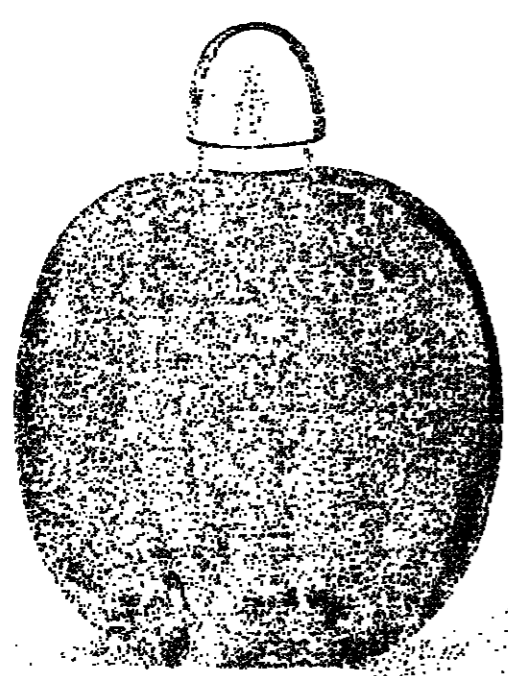
Tamil state of "Eelam" in northern Sri Lanka.

The Tamil United Liberation Front, the major political party of the Sri Lanka Tamils, has condemned the breakaway attempt as "ill advised" and said that it would not help the cause of the Tamil people "one wee bit."

About one quarter of Sri Lanka's population is Tamil, a people originating in southern India, while the majority is made up of the Sinhalese, Aryan people of northern India.

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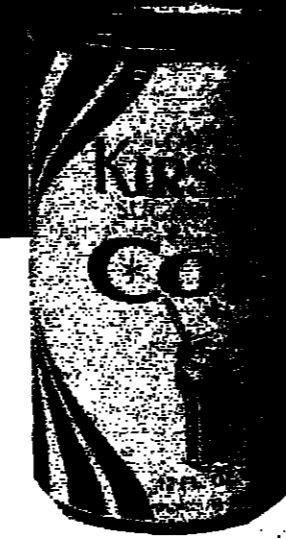
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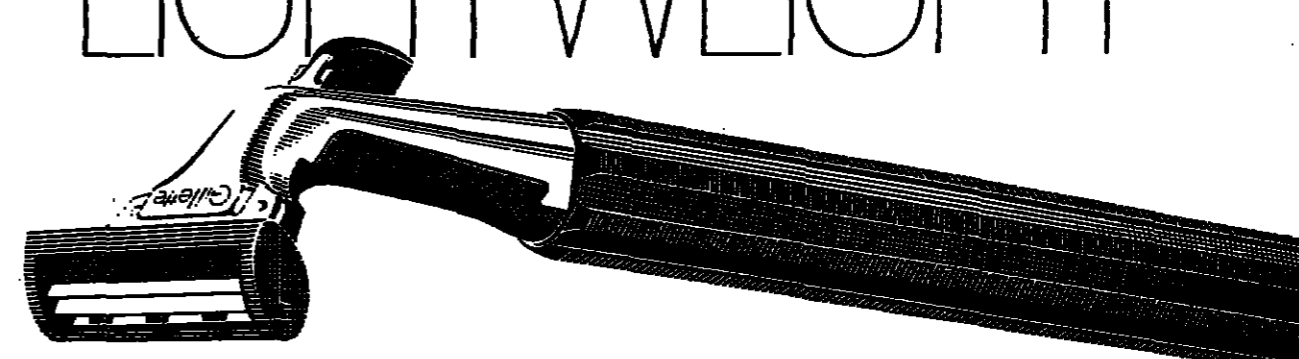
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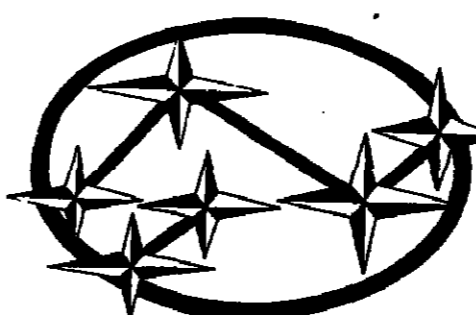
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U.S. plans action in Cuba

Military buildup 'posing threat'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (R) — The United States is making contingency plans for a major military action if there are any "further military threats" from Cuba, Defense Undersecretary Fred Ikle said.

Ikle told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Tuesday that a Soviet-backed military buildup in Cuba posed a "direct military threat" to the United States and Central America and it would be a grave mistake to ignore such a threat.

In what appeared to be a strong warning to Cuban President Fidel Castro, he said the Pentagon (defense department) joint chiefs of staff were at present drafting contingency plans to ensure the effectiveness of any U.S. move.

"We... want to be cautious and sure that our military actions succeed... One does not go into a conflict to lose but to win it. And, therefore, planning for a major military action, which is the responsibility of the joint chiefs of staff, was to be done in a very serious manner," Ikle told the committee. Answering senators' questions, he said there was no need to send U.S. troops to another country.

"Considering the nature of the security interests at stake, we would be remiss if we failed to advise you that we are developing the necessary contingency plans to respond as required and appropriate to further military threats and actions of aggression," the defense undersecretary said. He did not state what would constitute a further military threat or act of aggression.

"Cuba is a clear and present threat to Central America and the United States," Ikle said, adding that an increased Soviet presence in Cuba, 150 kms from U.S. shores, posed a grave threat to the security of Atlantic shipping lanes.

More disturbing however, was the "Soviet-Cuban effort presently under way further to expand the reach of Soviet imperialism," he said. Ikle said convincing evidence of Cuban subversion had surfaced in virtually every Caribbean basin country.

U.N. chief to back 3rd World demands

For better wealth distribution

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 16 (AP) — The new United Nations secretary-general, Javier Perez de Cuellar, who was sworn in Tuesday, said he would back Third World demands "for a better distribution of wealth."

"I cannot and must not separate myself from my origins in a developing country," the Peruvian diplomat declared after his election by the predominantly Third World, 157-member General Assembly.

The 61-year-old Perez de Cuellar, whose nomination by the 15-nation Security Council last Friday broke a six-week election deadlock, will succeed Kurt Waldheim, an Austrian, on Jan. 1 for a five-year term.

Perez de Cuellar, after being sworn in, pledged "not to seek or accept instructions in regard to the performance of my duties from any government, other authorities external" to the United Nations.

In his 28-minute acceptance speech, Perez de Cuellar highlighted the world economic crisis, "the most sorely pressed victims of which are the populations of the developing countries."

Referring to stalled efforts to launch what are known here as economic "global negotiations," Perez de Cuellar said the "proper expectations... of thousands of millions of human beings are being disappointed yet again and, at a time of political confrontation, the most fundamental human rights, particularly the right for a better distribution of wealth and social well-being, are being de facto infringed."

For the second year in a row, the General Assembly has been attempting in the closing days of its session to launch global negotiations aimed at achieving a massive redistribution of wealth from the industrial to the developing world. But the Reagan administration has balked at what it regards as efforts by the Third World majority to dictate fundamental changes in such subsidiary bodies as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, which are controlled by its chief Western contributors.

Perez de Cuellar said it was his "firm purpose... to reactivate the political role of the secretary-general." The new secretary-general spoke in Spanish, except for brief passages he delivered in English and French.

Waldheim, in his valediction, said of his successor, "I feel very confident for the future in passing this great responsibility on to him."

Perez de Cuellar, a former U.N. undersecretary-general for special political affairs to Waldheim, owes his election in large part to China's insistence that the post go to the Third World. During 16 rounds of Security Council balloting that began Oct. 27, China repeatedly blocked Waldheim's bid for an unprecedented third term.

The United States, in turn, blocked China's first choice — Tanzanian Foreign Minister Salim Ahmad Salim, apparently regarding him as too much a Third World activist. The withdrawal of Waldheim and Salim opened the council's balloting to Perez de Cuellar and six other compromise candidates last week.

Outgoing secretary-general Waldheim will spend about a month at the U.N. handing over to his successor, U.N. officials said. In retirement, Waldheim will receive a tax-free pension of \$69,650 from the U.N. Perez de Cuellar's salary will be \$158,340 plus a tax-free allowance.

Perez de Cuellar will move into an official U.N. residence in Manhattan.

May meet Khmer leader

Sihanouk plans China stay

MOUGINS, Southern France, Dec. 16 (AFP) — Former Cambodian head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk will leave for a "fairly long" stay in China in early January, he said in this French resort where he has been living for over six months.

In an interview with Agence France-Presse, the prince added that, sometime in February, he hoped to meet Khieu Samphan, president and prime minister of the ousted Khmer Rouge regime, fighting a guerrilla war in the hills of northern Cambodia.

Prince Sihanouk said that he suggested the meeting in a recent letter to Khieu Samphan, in which he stated the object of such talks would be to work out together the issue of the former monarch's personal involvement in a proposed three-way anti-Vietnamese coalition with the non-Communist faction led by his one-time prime minister Son Sann.

Representatives of the three factions, the Khmer Rouge, Prince Sihanouk's front and Son Sann's National Front for the Liberation of the Khmer People, agreed in principle on Nov. 14 to set up a coalition government.

But Prince Sihanouk declined to chair the state council of democratic Kampuchea — the Khmer Rouge regime, which still holds the Cambodian seat in the United Nations — saying that this would not be in Cambodia's long-term interests.

However, he said his senior representative, another former prime minister, in Tam, would join the coalition government, even if it were set up on the lines of Democratic Kampuchea.

In his letter to Khieu Samphan, Prince Sihanouk welcomed a new coalition formula put forward by the five Association of South-east Asian Nations (ASEAN) members — Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines. The prince said he considered this formula "more reassuring for our people" than the Khmer Rouge plans.

To facilitate progress on an agreement, the other ASEAN governments last week rallied to a suggestion from Singapore that, rather than attempting at all costs to set up a government, the three Cambodian factions form a loose alliance, within which each would keep its own personality. The Khmer Rouge demanded a two-month delay to study this plan.

In his letter, Prince Sihanouk said that if the Khmer Rouge accepted the new formula it would be possible for him "to cooperate with you in the fight against our country's enemies, as in the years from 1970 to 1975." The Khmer Rouge gained power in April 1975, setting up an extremist revolutionary regime, which was later accused of the deaths of hundreds of thousands through starvation.

Judge not to call Giscard as witness

PARIS, Dec. 16 (R) — A French judge has decided not to call former President Valery Giscard d'Estaing as a witness at the trial of four men in connection with the 1976 murder of former cabinet minister Prince Jean de Broglie.

Judge Andre Giresse rejected a defense request Tuesday to call the former president, who had written to the court that he did not believe he could provide any relevant testimony. Prince de Broglie, former minister and close associate of President Giscard, was shot in a Paris street in December, 1976.

The defense at the trial, which opened on Nov. 4, is trying to establish that the political establishment of the time was implicated in the crime or at least covered up the motives.

Former Prime Minister Raymond Barre testified Tuesday he knew nothing about suppression of a police report of a murder plot against the prince shortly before he was shot. Barre, part of Giscard's administration, was called as a witness by lawyers defending four men accused of plotting and carrying out the killing.

Barre said he had authorized the tapping of

private telephones only for reasons of state security. He told the court he had had little contact with Prince de Broglie, who was shunned by his former colleagues after he began establishing questionable business connections in the early 1970s.

He said he learned of the existence of a 1976 police report on a plot to murder the prince-politician only when it was revealed in a satirical weekly in April last year. The report, filed by a detective using information from an informer three months before the killing, has proved the key element in the De Broglie trial.

It spoke of an underworld plan to "liquidate" the prince because he has failed to honor some financial commitments. The prosecution maintains that businessman Pierre de Varga ordered the killing as a way of defaulting on debts to De Broglie. De Varga, 61, denies the charge. Gerard Freche, a small-time criminal, pleads guilty to the murder and former police inspector Guy Simone and cafe-owner Serge Tessedre plead guilty to hiring Freche.

Staff publishes 2 Italian papers

MILAN, Italy Dec. 16 (AP) — Journalists and typographers defied a shutdown order by Italian publishing giant Rizzoli and published two of the group's ailing dailies, the tabloid L'Occhio and the afternoon Corriere D'Informazione.

The two newspapers were distributed with mastheads bearing the name of the president of the Italian Press Federation, Piero Agostini, while typographer unions printed and distributed the issues on their own. The federation is an association of journalists.

Rizzoli announced it was shutting down L'Occhio, Italy's first experiment in a tabloid style, which had dropped from 250,000 to 90,000 circulation, and Corriere D'Informazione, a Milan afternoon paper which prints about 40,000 copies a day.

Typographer unions have called a 24-hour nationwide strike for all Italian newspapers, which will not publish Thursday.

Accusations that publisher Angni Rizzoli and Director-General Bruno Tassan Din belonged to the secret P-2 Masonic lodge triggered a smoldering labor dispute in Italy's largest publishing empire, already afflicted by

Kuzzoli announced plans to fire over 1,300 persons lay off another 621 employees in provincial Italian newspapers and shut down the two Milan-based dailies.

NEW YORK (AFP) — A New York subway train derailed in Manhattan Tuesday, injuring 10 persons and totally disrupting traffic in the morning rush hour. Surface traffic also ground to a halt as ambulances and police cars rushed to the scene. Buses and taxis were delayed by passengers trying to get to work.

CALCUTTA, India (AP) — Sixteen persons were killed and 20 injured Tuesday night when a train rammmed a bus at a level crossing at Gokulpur, 150 kms west of Calcutta, an Indian Railway spokesman reported. All those killed were identified as bus passengers.

PEKING (AFP) — The largest cultured pearl in China — measuring 15.5 mm (0.61 inches) in diameter — was recently discovered in the southern Chinese island of Hainan, according to the latest edition of the Canton Daily reaching here. The pearl came from a white butterfly oyster weighing more than 3 kgs. The newspaper said the pearl had been named the "Queen of Pearls".

LONDON (R) — Britain's House of Commons voted Tuesday against televising

BRIEFS

its debates by 176 votes to 158. The 700-year-old parliament has been arguing for the past decade about letting in the television cameras. Some parliamentarians fear that camera shots of government ministers with their feet on the table, rows of empty seats and even a few MPs dozing could lower parliament's standing.

DAR ES SALAAM (AFP) — The Organization of African Unity Liberation Committee Tuesday sent a message of solidarity to Seychelles President Albert Rene following last month's mercenary attack on the Indian Ocean island republic last month. In the message the committee also congratulated the "government and people of the Seychelles for their victory in repelling the mercenary attack."

DAR ES SALAAM (AFP) — The Tanzanian government has closed the Mzumbi Institute of Development, 240 kms west of here, and expelled more than 830 students following a one-week boycott of examinations. The students were bundled into government-hired buses Tuesday and sent home.

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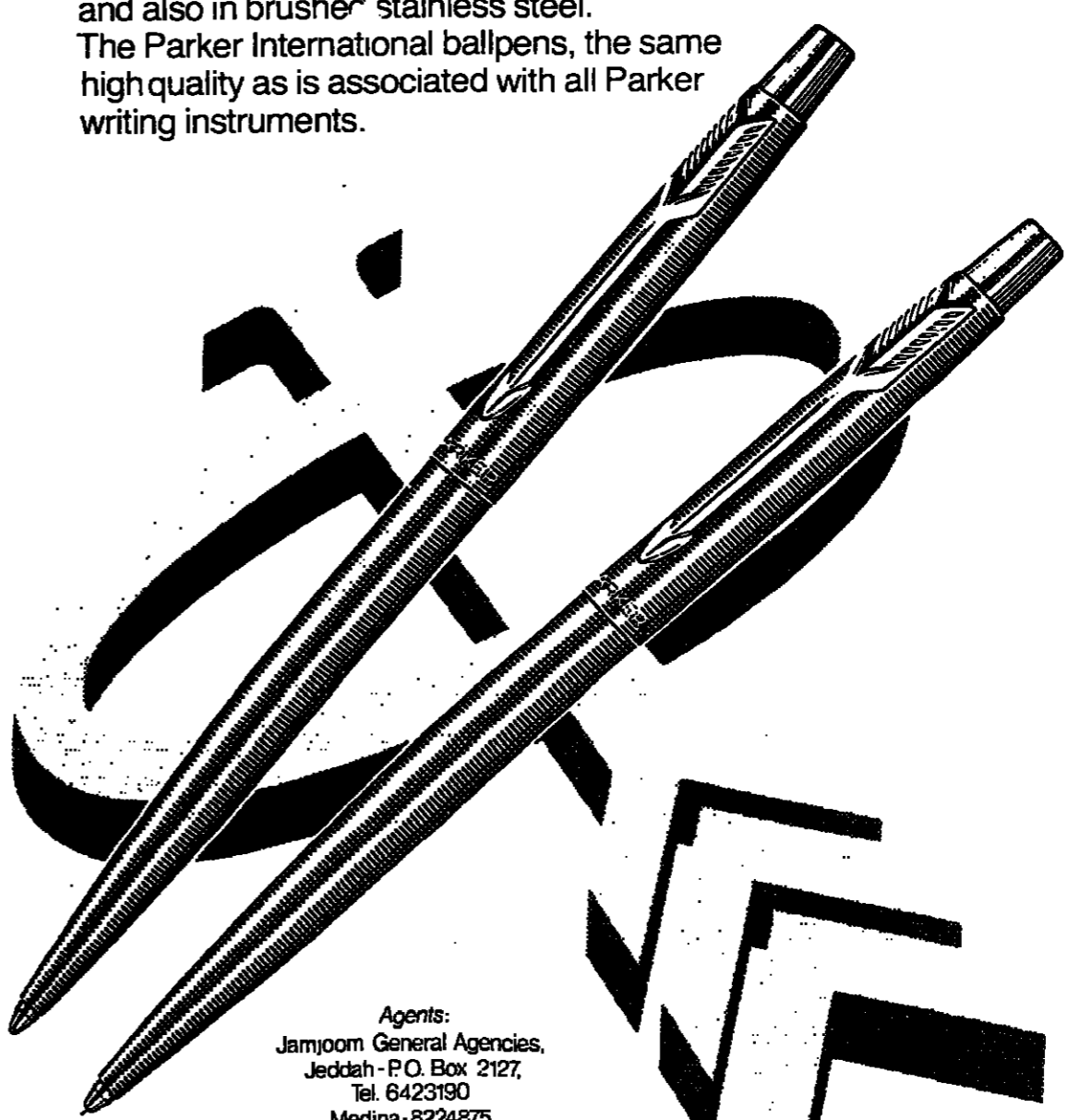
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International

EEC, U.S. attitude to Third World exporters assailed

GENEVA, Dec. 16 (R) — Clothing importers, retailers and consumer groups from Western Europe and the United States have attacked what they called protectionist policies by their governments in trade talks with Third World countries.

Some 33 organizations said in a statement Wednesday that proposals by the European Economic Community (EEC) to limit access of Third World textiles to European markets were "the worst possible response to current worldwide difficulties." Industrial recovery depended on international free trade, the statement said.

According to trade sources, and EEC proposals at talks held here in the 51-nation textiles committee of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) have made it uncertain whether a new international

agreement on textiles will replace the present one which expires on Dec. 31.

The U.S. negotiator at the talks said Tuesday he had instructions to "strengthen" U.S. proposals, which the sources said was likely to result in tougher terms being offered to Third World exporters.

The statement said European and American consumers were paying the price for protectionism in textile products. "With household budgets already strained by inflation, this hidden tax on clothing is an extra burden which falls most heavily on lower and fixed-income families, particularly those clothing young children," it said.

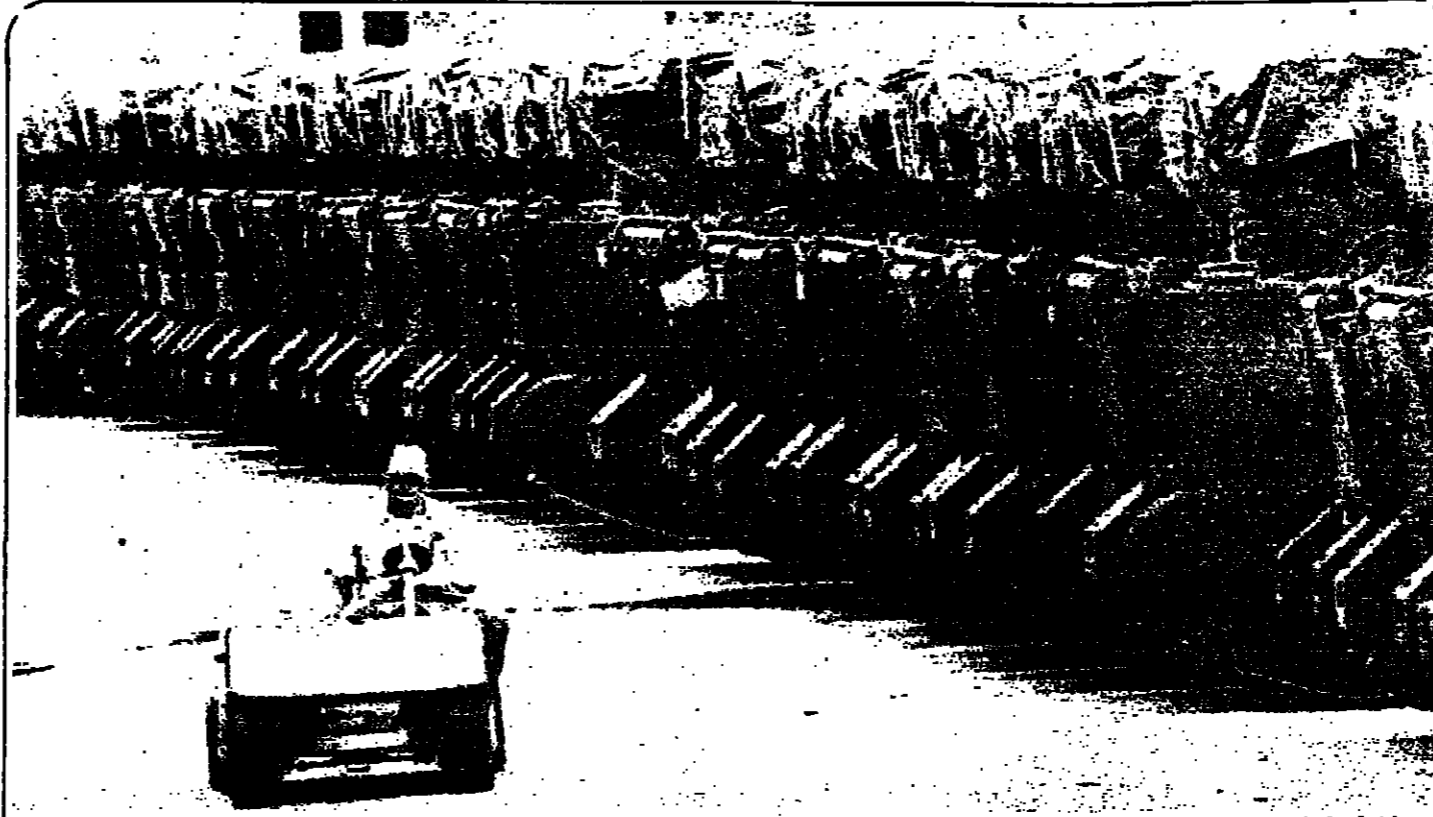
Peter Handal, chairman of the U.S. textile and apparel group, said the problems of Western textile industries were due to failure to rationalize, and not to foreign imports.

U.S. permits two new exchanges to trade in Eurodollar futures

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (AP) — The Chicago Board of Trade and the New York Futures Exchange have been given U.S. government permission to trade in Eurodollar futures contracts.

The action by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission Tuesday brings to three the number of U.S. exchanges designated as a contract market to trade futures contracts in Eurodollar time deposit rates. The Chicago Mercantile Exchange began trading in Eurodollar futures last Wednesday, a day after it won government approval to be a contract market. No date has been set for either the Chicago Board of Trade or the New York Futures Exchange to start trading.

Eurodollars are dollars deposited in European banks and in foreign branches of U.S. banks. A futures contract is a commitment to deliver or receive a commodity or security at a specified future date, at a specified price. An agreement reached last week between the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission paved the way for approval of the Eurodollar trading in the United States. The three-month Eurodollar time deposit futures contract carries a face value of \$1 million. An investor must buy or sell a contract based on the interest paid on \$1 million deposited for three months in a London bank.



TOW VEHICLES: An Emerson Electric Co. employee drivers past a row of M901 improved TOW vehicles, tube-launched, optically-tracked, wire-guided at Emerson's Electronics and Space Division in St. Louis. E and S designs and manufactures complex optical and guidance systems for the TOW anti-tank missile and integrates these systems into turrets for the 13-ton armored vehicles shown here.

Funds provided till March

U.S. Congress votes compromise budget

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (R) — President Reagan has signed a compromise budget resolution which will keep the U.S. federal government running until March 31 next year.

"The control of government spending, reducing inflationary expectations, restoring jobs, growth and prosperity for Americans is a slow and difficult process," the president said at a bill-signing ceremony in the Oval Office. He called the congressional resolu-

tion a "significant step" in improving the nation's recession-battered economy.

The measure provides for \$4 billion in additional budget cuts for the 1982 financial year over and above \$35 billion in cuts approved by Congress last summer. The president had originally asked for an additional \$8 billion in cuts.

Reagan vetoed the first budget resolution sent to him by Congress, which provided only \$2 billion in savings, causing a one-day shutdown of the federal government Nov. 23. Without funds because of the veto, government agencies began sending workers on leave and closing down operations.

Congress the same day hastily passed a

stopgap bill providing funds for the government to operate until Dec. 15, and worked out the compromise which Reagan signed Tuesday.

Reagan also signed special financing legislation for the \$43 million Alaska natural gas pipeline, the world's largest private construction project.

The House of Representatives gave final approval to the package Thursday after supporters swept aside legal and policy objections. The measure, originally proposed by Reagan in October, exempted the pipeline from several anti-trust and pricing laws and in a concession to the financial community, could require customers to start paying of billions of dollars in construction loans.

World food production touches record figure

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (AP) — World food and agricultural production climbed to a record in 1981, up nearly 3 percent from the average of the last three years, the Agriculture Department said Tuesday.

But the preliminary report indicated that population growth still is outpacing food production in much of the world. Overall, per capita food output this year fell about one percent from the three-year average. The "world" figures did not include China, which so far has not provided enough statistical material to use in the annual report, said Cecil Davison of the department's economic research service.

Production in centrally planned countries "remained at the 1980 level" as the third consecutive poor harvest in the Soviet Union, offset gains in Eastern Europe, the report said.

"Developing countries, (on an overall basis) registered a small increase in per capita food production in 1981," it said.

In its latest "food outlook" report, FAO predicts that world production of wheat, coarse grains and rice should all reach record levels this year, with coarse grain registering the sharpest increase. Cereal output increased in most producing countries, with the notable exception of the Soviet Union. Soviet output fell below last year's low level to only 170 million tons. The FAO estimate was more than 60 million tons below the official target.

Despite higher world production, the overall import demand for cereals is predicted to rise 10 million tons this year to a record 219 million tons. FAO singled out the following reasons for the increase in world cereals trade.

— Strong demand from developing countries where high population growth continues to spur higher consumption.

— The re-entry of India on world markets. India is expected to import wheat this year in order to supplement government purchases of domestic wheat.

Higher shipments to the Mideast, primarily to meet the needs of war-torn Iran.

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Jordanian Airlines to open new routes

AMMAN, Dec. 16 (R) — The Royal Jordanian Airlines Alia plans to expand its operations next year to include Kuala Lumpur, Singapore and Manila in the Far East, Istanbul in Europe, and Rio de Janeiro in Latin America, its President Ali Ghandour told a press conference Tuesday.

China to levy fines on overdue taxes

PEKING, Dec. 16 (AP) — China's new income tax on foreign companies in China will take effect Jan. 1 and impose a penalty of 1.5 percent a day on overdue taxes, the official Xinhua News Agency said Wednesday.

Xinhua distributed a "tentative translation" of the law passed Sunday by the National People's Congress. It provides for a fine of up to five times the amount of tax due on companies that evade taxes or refuse to pay. In case of disputes, the law says, companies must pay first before applying for reconsideration. If they do not accept tax

authorities' decisions, they can take the disputes to law courts, it added.

Losses may be carried over and applied against future income for up to five years, it provides.

Companies engaged in farming, forestry or other low-profit occupations are allowed to apply for exemption or reduction of taxes—a total exemption in the first profit-making year, a 50 percent reduction in the second and third years and a 1.5-30 percent reduction for the next 10 years.

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3.9% growth forecast for Japan's economy

TOKYO, Dec. 16 (AFP) — The Japanese economy will grow by 3.9 percent in real terms next year, with a moderate recovery in domestic demand, the independent Nomura Research Institute forecast here Tuesday.

It said that individual consumption, housing, production and corporate investment would all gradually pick up. But the institute said exports would slacken significantly because of the hardening of the Yen.

France gets \$46m ECU loan for Euratom

BRUSSELS, Dec. 16 (AFP) — The First European Currency Unit (ECU) loan of 42 million ECU's (about \$46 million) will go to the French atomic agency Euratom, a European commission source said here Tuesday. The 15-year loan, which carries interest at 14 percent, was placed entirely by the Banca Commerciale Italiana de Milan. It will be used to finance, and at Montalto di Castro, Italy.



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فيسلر

هاتف امته الاصل

Cashing in on Polish crisis

Russia increases gold sales

ZURICH, Dec. 16 (R) — The Soviet Union has been selling increased amounts of gold in the past few days, taking advantage of firmer prices due to the crisis in Poland, bullion dealers said Wednesday.

The sales have been in Zurich, New York and possibly also in other centers, with delivery to a large extent in London, the dealers said. In recent months, the Soviet Union has offered fairly large amounts of gold for sale whenever the market showed signs of being able to absorb it without collapsing, the dealers said.

The international gold price usually soars at times of world tension, attracting investors who distrust currencies, but this week the

gold market's performance has been lackluster. The morning fixing price by London bullion houses Wednesday was \$418 an ounce, only \$11 above the closing price in New York last Friday before the Polish crisis arose.

The metal jumped to \$430 in hectic trading Monday in the far east but slipped to \$413.75 in New York by Monday night before rising modestly again due to concern about Poland and increased worries over political tension in the Middle East following Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights.

In New York, David Lineban, precious metals trader with the brokerage house of Drexel Burnham Lambert, said: "Soviet sel-

ling, which appeared to continue Tuesday, seems to be a factor keeping the (gold) market under wraps." The Soviet Union is the second largest world producer of gold after South Africa. But its gold sales policy, unlike that of South Africa which sells almost all of its output, is not predictable.

Gold specialists attribute the step-up in sales in part to this year's poor Soviet grain harvest, the worst in years, which means the country must obtain foreign exchange to pay for food imports. Another reason for higher sales is the lower average price for gold in 1981. A year ago the metal stood at \$376 an ounce.

Market analysts say the strengthening of the dollar, which followed the weekend developments in Poland, also dampened the metal's rise. They said gold and most other commodities had been weak lately as a result of prolonged high U.S. interest rates and signs that the rate of U.S. inflation was declining.

OECD blames Polish policy for shortages

PARIS, Dec. 16 (AFP) — Poland will have to keep on importing more and more food unless it overhauls its economic policies to give priority to agriculture, the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) predicted Wednesday.

OECD experts said the Polish economy had stagnated to such an extent that the key grain and potato crops have shrunk in the second half of the year; and meat production had hardly risen since 1974. An OECD study of Polish agriculture blamed the decline on a lack of stimulus for investment and insecurity on the part of private landowners who, although still the dominant farmers, felt their future threatened.

It said Poland's main farming problem of the future would be the struggle to produce enough grain to feed itself. At the moment, Poland produces only half its grain needs, compared to 75 percent in 1972, and the production of tractors had not risen since 1974, it stated.

The study warned that soaring imports of cereals and other animal feeds cannot be cut unless meat production and meat price subsidies were cut first.

But the OECD conceded that it would be as difficult to cut meat consumption now as it has been in 1970 and 1976, when government's decisions to put up meat prices to cut demand had sparked big demonstrations. The study also pointed to the slow but steady disappearance of small livestock breeders who had been replaced by state establishments using more of the scarce animal feed and producing less.

U.S. stock market

NEW YORK, Dec. 16 — Stock market opened lower Wednesday after the Federal Reserve Board reported the biggest monthly drop in U.S. industrial production since May 1980.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks fell 1.33 points to 874.62 in the first half hour. Declines held a slight edge over advances among New York stock exchange-listed issues.

The Fed reported industrial production fell 2.1 percent in November, a greater decline than had been expected by Wall Street economists and a sign of a deepening recession. Investors also remain concerned about developments in Poland, where a martial-law regime is in power.

Arab League asks Libya to relent on Tunisia

TUNIS, Dec. 16 (R) — The Arab League is trying to persuade Libya to drop its objections to Tunisia joining the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), League sources said Wednesday.

Arab League Secretary General Chedi Klibi has asked Libya to reconsider its position, the sources said. Libya vetoed Tunisia's candidature at an OAPEC ministerial meeting in Abu Dhabi last week. The North African neighbors are at odds over claims to their shared continental shelf and the exploitation of oilfields in southern Tunisia.

Tanker tonnage shows increase

LONDON, Dec. 16 (AFP) — Although the world total of idle tankers continued rising over the past four weeks to its highest level since March 1979, tanker tonnage availability actually increased because more than six million tons were released from storage contracts, London-based brokers A.E. Gibson has said.

The laid-up figure rose by less than one million tons to 24.06 million tons deadweight, despite the "totally depressed tanker market," Gibson said Wednesday that owners are "taking a lot more time to deliberate over whether to commit their vessels to what nowadays proves to be the costly exercise of immobilizing tonnage." Meanwhile, the tonnage engaged in storage dropped from 26.5 to 20.4 million tons, even though the Japanese storage program was enlarged to 9.22 against 8.88 million tons.

London commodities

Table with columns for Commodity, Closing Prices, Wednesday, and Tuesday. Includes Gold (\$ per ounce), Silver cash, Copper cash, Tin cash, Lead cash, Zinc cash, Aluminium cash, Nickel cash, Sugar January, Coffee January, Cocoa December, and Note: Prices in pounds per metric ton.

The above prices are provided by Saudi Research & Investment Ltd., P.O. Box 6474, Tel: 6653988, Jeddah.

London stock market

LONDON, Dec. 16 (R) — Equities closed firmer as buyers re-entered the market after recent weakness, dealers said, and at 1500 hours the Financial Times index was up 6.3 to 519.8. Trading remained very quiet, however, they added.

Industrial leaders closed with gains of 2p to 4p, as in ICI, Hawker Siddeley, Glaxo, Blue Circle and Guest Keen. GEC featured with a 12p rise to 80 1/2 following major order from South renewed speculative demand. Gold shares closed steady after early gains up to 100 cents.

Government bonds closed with gains in both short and long maturities. Dealers said trading remained at a low level throughout. The early firmer trend was further encouraged by the higher New York bonds opening.

Financial Roundup

Dollar closes on firm note

By J. H. Hammond

JEDDAH, Dec. 16 — The dollar fluctuated on the European exchanges on Wednesday but closed the day on a firmer note despite some losses against some of the major currencies. The British pound and French franc were helped by some determined support by their respective national central banks. Eurodollar interest rate considerations predominated in affecting the American currency's value on the exchanges, and interest rate trends down on the whole. One-month and three-month rates lost between 1/4 to 1/2 percent while longer term tenors moves stable, i.e.

Gold and silver fluctuated erratically once the immediate urgency of the Polish situation receded, with gold priced at \$416 per ounce on Wednesday. On the local markets, dealings on the spot dollar rates was cautious and the local money markets continued to witness declines in real interest rates by between another 1 — 1 1/2 percent in most tenors.

Once again on Wednesday, the Polish situation did not affect the exchange markets as had been feared despite news that the Polish government had been using troops to break worker's strikes. The money and exchange markets were more pre-occupied with what was happening to Eurodollar interest rates in general and the picture that emerged suggested an immediate easing of rates but still one of rising dollar interest rates in the near future.

One-month Eurodollar rates opened at 12 1/16 — 12 1/16 1/2 percent and traded lower still at 12 3/4 — 12 3/8 percent by close of the session. It was only on Monday that the one-month rate was quoted at 13 3/4 — 14 1/2 percent, to show the steepness of the fall. Similarly, the one-year tenor for the dollar is now quoted at 14 1/2 — 15 percent on Wednesday compared with 14 3/4 — 15 percent on Monday. The noticeable trend

though, is that once again, long term dollar rates are holding firm indicating a general agreement that dollar interest rates will rise in the near future.

On the European exchanges, the British pound held its ground and managed to improve over New York closing levels of 1.8900 to trade at 1.8950 levels on Wednesday. This is a rise of more than 4 cents since Monday and is witness to the extreme volatility of this currency. The French franc similarly, is now trading at 5.7430 levels compared to 5.87 levels on Monday. The yen managed to improve its position to 217.95 while the Swiss franc was firm at 1.8290 compared with Tuesday's 1.8350 levels.

The European nervousness and lack of direction on the bourses, affected local trading with spot dollar rates opening at 3.4190-00, rising to 3.193-05 and then falling back. A burst of activity around midday pushed rates up to 3.4205-10 but this was short lived.

On the local money markets, Wednesday's trading efforts were characterized by extremely wide quotes which for example, took the one-month JIBOR rate to 9 1/2-11 1/2 percent on opening and the three-month to 10 1/2-12 1/2 percent. The shorter dated funds did not fare any better with the week fixed quoted at 9 1/2-11 percent and the overnight funds at 8 1/2-9 1/2 percent. By end of the day however, quoting ranges had narrowed to more "normal" levels, to take the one-month to 9-9 1/2 percent and the three-month to 10-10 1/2 percent. The one-year was quoted at 12 1/2-13 percent.

Table titled 'Closing gold prices (in U.S. dollars per ounce):' with columns for Location (London, Paris, Frankfurt, Zurich, Hong Kong) and Price.

BRIEFS

ABU DHABI, (AFP) — Sudan has received a \$6.5 million loan from the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) to make up the deficit in its balance of payments. The loan will carry an annual interest rate of between 3.75 and 4.75 percent. The AMF, which has its headquarters at Abu Dhabi, has since its establishment in 1977 already lent \$70 million to Sudan.

PARIS, (AFP) — French textile output has dropped 10 percent this year, although textiles and apparel purchases in France rose 2.5 percent, industry statistics showed Wednesday. Foreign goods took 48 percent of the market this year against previous 47 percent. Exports, accounting for 41 percent of output, were hampered by continuing sluggish conditions in the international market.

TEL AVIV, (AFP) — The cost of living increase slowed to 5.8 percent in Israel last month, compared to nine percent in October, the Bureau of Central Statistics announced Tuesday. It added that the cost of living index showed a big 91.16 percent jump since the beginning of the year.

MADRID, (AFP) — The state steel sector in Spain has obtained \$380 million in credit from eight Spanish private banks for periods up to eight years. It will go toward "integrated conversion programs" covering Emsidea, Mediterranean blast furnaces and Biscay blast furnaces. Banking executives said this was the largest financing operation of its kind so far within Spain. The credit is guaranteed by the National Institute for Industry (INI).

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Public Electric and Gas company said it was scrapping plans to extend its Hope Creek nuclear plant. The

company explained that it no longer needed Hope Creek two.

THE HAGUE (AFP) — Dutch Economy Minister Jan Tinbergen announced a 32 million guilder (\$13 million) allocation for research into wind power.

Foreign Exchange Rates

Table titled 'Foreign Exchange Rates' with columns for Currency, Cash, and Transfer. Lists various currencies like Bahraini Dinar, Bangladeshi Taka, Belgian Franc, etc.

On manpower development

Non aligned ministers reach accord

BEIRUT, Dec. 16 (R) — Labor ministers of nonaligned nations have agreed in Baghdad to a declaration of principles for the concerted development of their manpower resources, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported.

It said the declaration was ratified Tuesday at the end of a four-day conference of the ministers or their representatives of 80 nonaligned nations and developing countries, and delegates of regional and international organizations.

The conference drew up a working plan

cooperation in the field of vocational training, molding it in accordance with the requirements of national economic development, the agency said. The plan called for cooperation between nonaligned nations to protect workers and provide them with material and social safeguards.

A resolution adopted by the meeting also condemned the policy of South Africa in what it described as the illegal occupation of Namibia (South West Africa) and violations of related U.N. resolutions. INA said the conference called on all states and the United Nations to aid Namibia liberation movement.

Iraq earmarks \$14b for projects

BAGHDAD, Dec. 16 (R) — Iraq has budgeted 6.75 billion dinar (\$14 billion) for the first year of its five-year economic development plan despite its war effort, the English-language daily newspaper Baghdad Observer said.

In its Dec. 13 issue, the newspaper said the allocation for 5,840 projects was a 29 percent increase over the 1980 figure, but gave no figure for the whole of the five-year plan, launched in 1981. Iraqi oil income and

foreign exchange reserves have been hit by the 14-month-old war with Iran.

Agriculture and rural development had top priority as food should become a more important commodity than oil, Sabah Kachachi, the government economic planning adviser, said earlier this month. Oil Minister Tayeh Abdul-Karim said in Vienna last month that exports were now about one million barrels a day from a pre-war 3.4 million.

Soviets increase oil production

MOSCOW, Dec. 16 (R) — Soviet oil production rose by one percent in the first 11 months of this year to 557 million tons (12.15 million barrels per day), according to official statistics published Wednesday. Western

economic experts said it seemed the Soviet Union would achieve or fall slightly short of its target production of 610 million tons (12.2 million bpd) for the year.

Figures published in Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta also showed that natural gas production in the first 11 months of the year was seven percent up on the same period last year at 423 billion cubic meters, and two percent above target level. Coal production dropped two percent to 643 million tons for the 11 months. Western experts said the fall appeared to reflect a decline in the productivity of the older producing basins and delays in exploiting new resources in east Siberia.

Industrial production grew by 3.4 percent over the first 11 months of last year and looked unlikely to reach the planned 4.1 percent for the whole of 1981. Western analysts said.

Italian private firms unable to pay bonus

ROME, (AFP) Many private Italian firms will be unable to pay employees the traditional 13th month end-of-year bonus salary check, President of the Employees Federation Vittorio Merlopi, said Tuesday.

Part of the blame, he said, went to the public sector debt to private firms, which amounted to 7,000 million liras (about \$600 million) — equivalent to about two months salary.

SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT TENDERS

Table with columns: Authority, Description, Tender Number, Tender Price (\$R), Closing Date. Lists tenders for educational zones, municipal asphalt, and temporary fences.

PORTS AUTHORITY

JEDDAH ISLAMIC PORT SHIPS MOVEMENTS UP TO 0700 HOURS ON 20TH SAFAR 1402/16TH DECEMBER 1981

Table with columns: Berth, Name of Vessel, Agent, Type of Cargo, Arrival. Lists ship arrivals and recent arrivals at Jeddah Islamic Port.

KING ABDUL AZIZ PORT DAMMAM SHIPS MOVEMENT UP TO 0700 HOURS ON 16.12.81/20.2.1402 CHANGES OF THE PAST 24 HOURS

Table with columns: Berth, Name of Vessel, Agent, Type of Cargo, Arrival. Lists ship arrivals and changes at King Abdul Aziz Port Dammam.

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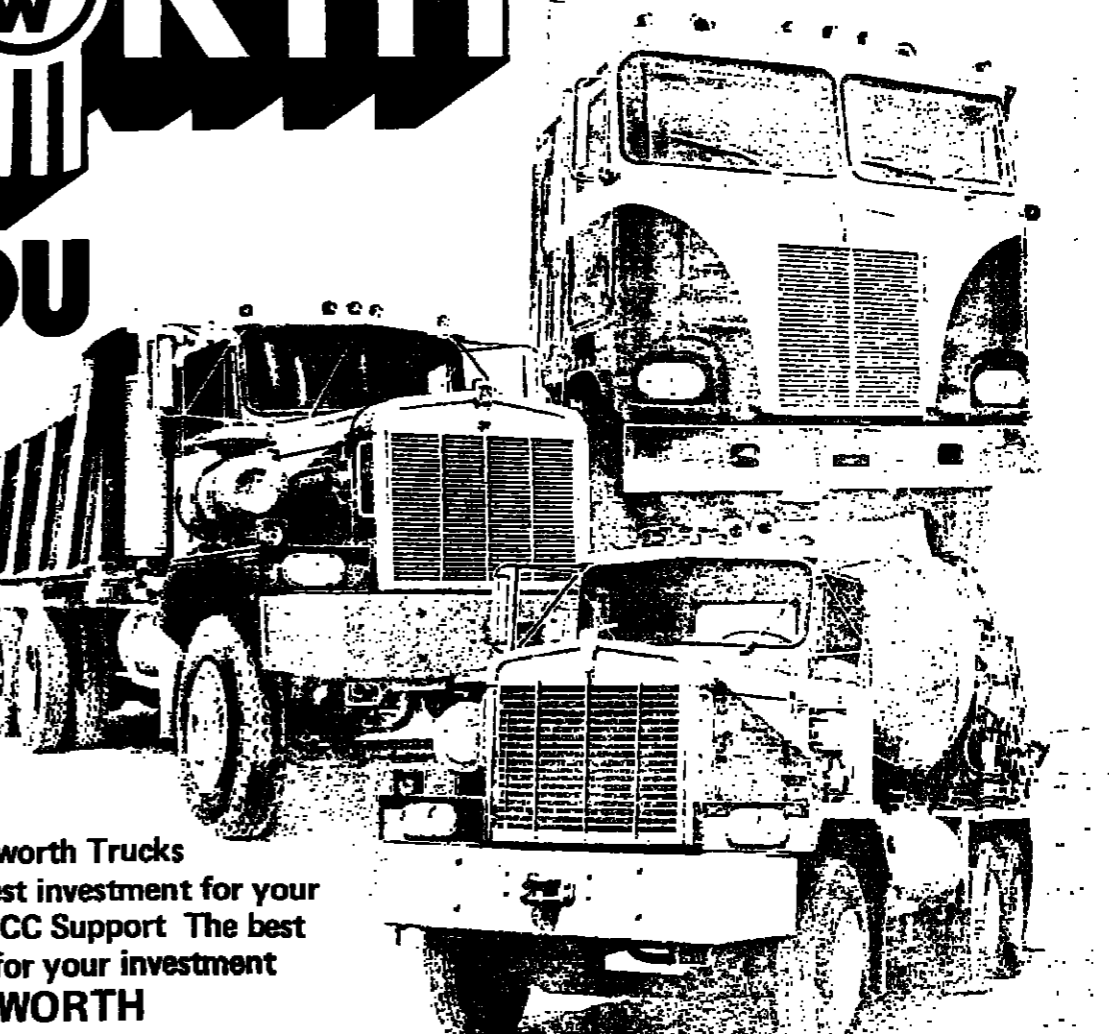


Table with columns: Branch Name, P.O. Box, Telephone, Telex. Lists Kenworth branches across Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, including Al-Khobar, Dammam, Hofuf, Riyadh, Buraidah, Jeddah, Abha, Kuwait, and others.

In action-packed day

MIPTC fines Nastase \$3,000

SYDNEY, Dec. 16 (AP) — Ilie Nastase's fines mounted up to \$3000 late Wednesday when the Men's International Professional Tennis Council (MIPTC) fined him \$750 for making an ugly gesture with the racket during a doubles match in the NSW Tennis Open at White City.

4-6, 6-3, 6-4 win over Sydney youngster Craig Miller. Six seeds were eliminated — last year's winner, American Fritz Buehning (7), Victorian Paul McNamee (8) and Americans Tim Mayotte (9), John Sadri (11), Pat Dupre (14) and Peter Rennert (16). Buehning lost to Tim Wilkinson 6-1, 6-4 and Sadri went down to Phil Dent 7-5, 7-6.

There were a lot of this said and there were some bumps everytime they changed sides. Talking of today's victory, Tanner revealed: "Mathematically, this puts me into next months Volvo Masters ahead of Elliot Teltscher."



Ilie Nastase, back to old game

As Moncrief, Bridgeman shine Bucks bedazzle Pacers to score 9th straight win

NEW YORK, Dec. 16 (AP) — The Milwaukee Bucks have won nine straight games, but Quinn Buckner says the rest of the National Basketball Association hasn't seen anything yet.

Freddie Brown came off the bench to ignite a 23-6 Seattle surge in the fourth quarter, while Gus Williams scored a season-high 32 points to lead the SuperSonics over Denver, Nuggets.

The Grand Prix supervisor Bill Gilmour announced that Nastase had incurred a fourth fine for making an ugly gesture with the racket at him while partnering Argentinian Guillermo Vilas in their 6-2, 6-2 loss to Swedes Anders Jarryd and Hans Simonsson.

The jokes and antics from Tuesday's upset of top seed Peter McNamara went sour as the Romanian went tumbling to Londoner Johnathan Smith 6-4, 6-4 in a second round incident-marred match.

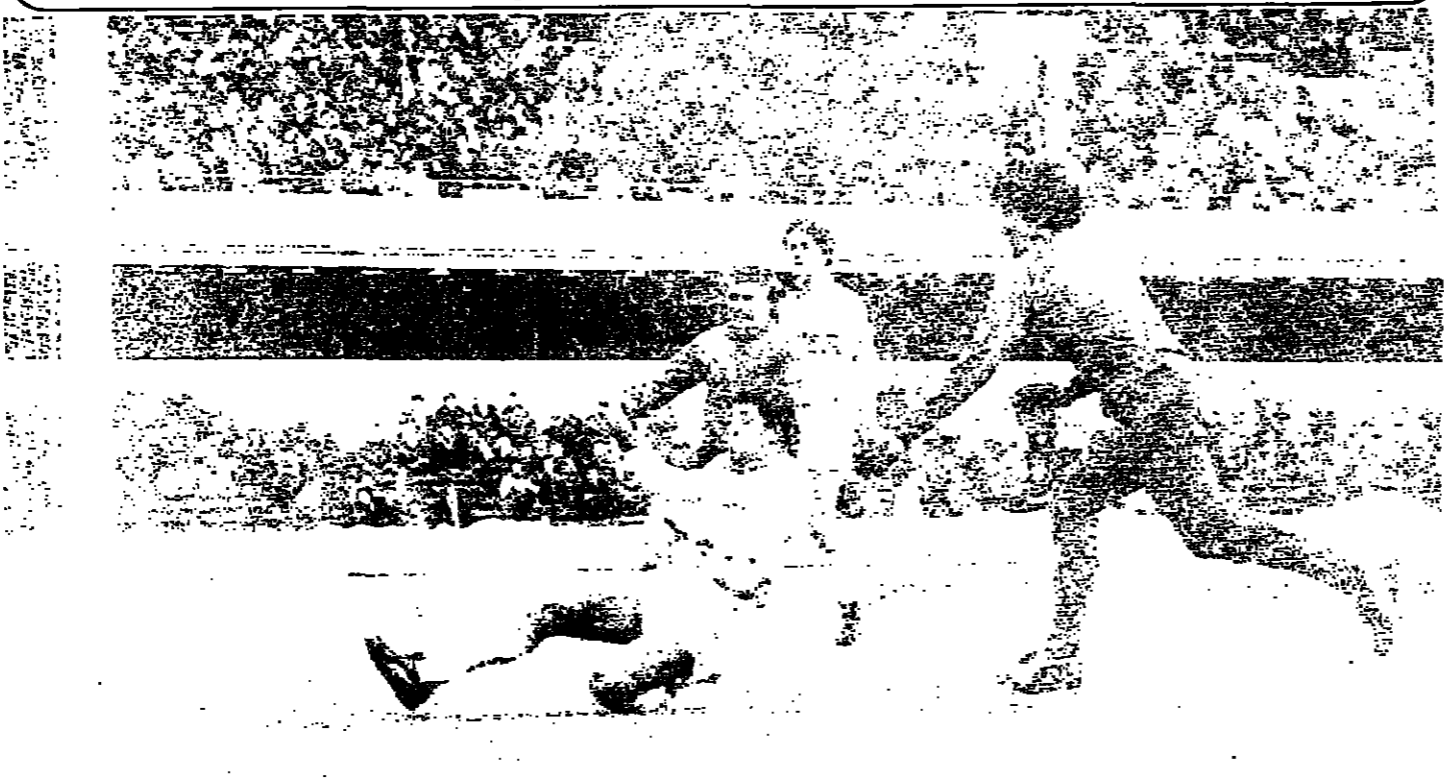
Doubts raised over future of courtside microphones

SYDNEY, Dec. 16 (Agencies) — The future of courtside microphones at tennis matches is likely to be investigated after the furor during Ilie Nastase's controversial singles match.

offensive language after a holy-contested argument. Unknown to the pair, Schachter's complaint, featuring the offending words, resounded through the airwaves via a nearby microphone to television viewers throughout the country.

Ali insinuates at another comeback

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 16 (AP) — Former heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali, who announced retirement following a 10-round decision loss to Trevor Berbick in the Bahamas last Friday night, indicated that he might fight again.



NARROW SHAVE: Barnsley goalkeeper Bobby Horn (right) watches the ball narrowly miss the mark as Queens Park Rangers Tony Sealy slides in an attempt to reach the ball. Queens Park Rangers won the Second Division match 1-0 Saturday.

James' goals take Swansea to top

LONDON, Dec. 16 (R) — Swansea leapedfrogged over three teams to take a one-point lead in the English Football First Division by beating defending champions Aston Villa 3-1 at home Tuesday night.

Standings table with columns for Team, P, W, D, L, F, A, Pts.

Ipswich looked home and dry at Everton's Goodison Park when they led 2-0 at half time on goals by Eric Gates and Alan Brazil.

Results table with columns for Match, Score, and other details.

Ali, who turns 40 next month, said shortly after the unanimous decision loss to the 27-year-old Berbick that he wouldn't attempt to win the heavyweight crown for a fourth time, that age had caught up with him.

Judges to be judged In Mexico City, a widely-criticized decision by one judge that Pat Cowdell of Britain beat world champion Salvador Sanchez of Mexico in their featherweight title bout in Houston last Saturday had brought strong action from the World Boxing Council.

Aussies strike it rich

ABERDEEN, Dec. 16 (AFP) — Australia continued their high scoring in the Scottish section of their tour by crushing the North and Midlands 36-6 here Tuesday. It was the tourists 13th win.

and Grigg collected his third try six minutes from the end to put the Australians further ahead. Andrew performed a brilliant piece of ball juggling before providing Grigg with his fourth try.

Grigg started off with a try and North and Midlands replied with a penalty by Irvine two minutes later. However, the Australians were put ahead by two further penalties by Paul McLean for a 12-3 half-time lead.

Boroughmuir's Duncan Wilson, 21, has been named replacement stand-off now that Ron Wilson (London Scottish), who played in Ruthford's place against Romania, has retired from international rugby.

Bacchus returns to hit ton

BRISBANE, Dec. 16 (AP) — The West Indians led a chance for valuable match practice when heavy cloud made conditions dangerous for batting against express bowling in the one-day match against Queensland country played at Coolandera, north of here on Wednesday.

century in only 15 minutes including two sixes in three balls of Ross Wallace. The century included 15 boundaries and the two sixes.

Parsons-Daniel disappoints

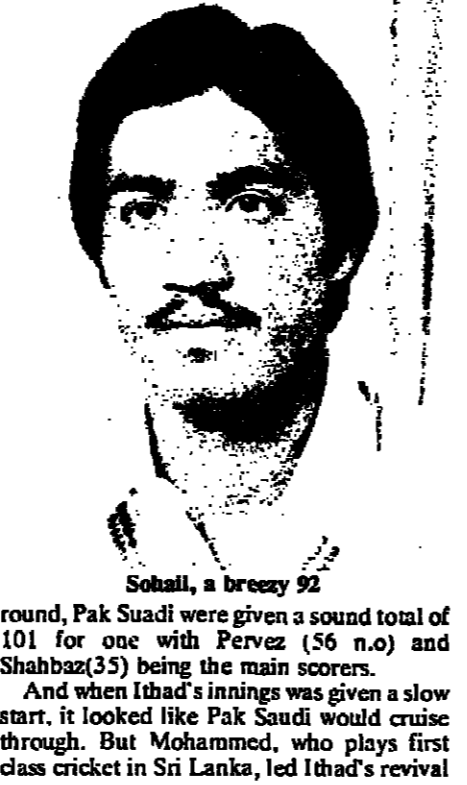
JEDDAH, Dec. 16 — With the mid-season break beginning this week the Jeddah Softball League has reached the halfway stage. The big disappointment today has been the form of last year's champions Parsons/Daniel, who are currently three games behind the joint leaders — Saudia Vets and BD's All Stars.

down 6-4 to the Hawks. In the "B" Division two teams remain unbeaten — DATAC in the Oasis Division and HBH in the Coral. HBH cruised to three quick victories against Corps (22-5); PCS (15-8) and Lockheed (5-1), while DATAC had favorable results against Raytheon RR (15-7) and Whittaker (10-8).

How they stand table with columns for Division, Team, W, L, GB, RF, RA, and Runs.

Sohail steers Pak Jeddah Seniors ahead

JEDDAH, Nov. 16 — Pak Jeddah Seniors' Sohail was in his element last week. He hammered a quick 92 not out — in the process eclipsing the previous record of 82 by Zahoor of Pak Saudi set in 1977 — in the Friday group of the Six-a-Side Cricket Tournament for the Oval Trophy.



Sohail, a breezy 92

with a flurry of strokes and brought his side to seven runs short of their opponent's total before making his exit. But the remaining batsmen could not pick up the gauntlet in the five balls left and Pak Saudi just made it.

North Zone skittled

NEW DELHI, Dec. 16 (AFP) — Replugging to North Zone's meagre first innings score of 167 runs, England XI were 73 without loss at the close of the opening day's play in their three-day match being played at Jammu, in the northern Jammu-Kashmir state Wednesday.

round, Pak Saudi were given a sound total of 101 for one with Pervez (56 n.o.) and Shahbaz(35) being the main scorers.

division "C" action centered around TOC this week. Unfortunately they lost both times, 4- 14 to Lockheed and 9 — 13 to Corps. This keeps Corps in the driver's seat, slightly ahead of Saudia To Stars.

Passport Lost

IN JEDDAH
MISSING U.K. PASSPORT NUMBER B140442, ISSUED IN THE NAME OF MR. CHRISTOPHER DENIS OLEARY.
COULD THE FINDER PLEASE TELEPHONE 6512035/6821341 JEDDAH OR HAND IT OVER TO THE BRITISH EMBASSY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

MERZARIO LINES
ANNOUNCES THE ARRIVAL OF

VESSEL

Dammam
E.T.A. E.T.D.

Comandante
Revello

22-12-81 22-12-81

Consignees are requested to collect their delivery orders by surrendering their original Bill of Lading.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

ARABIAN ESTABLISHMENT
FOR TRADE SHIPPING & AIR NAVIGATION

P.O. BOX 59 DHAHRAN AIRPORT. TEL: 8322837-8321036
CABLE: MEYASSER - DAMMAM TELEX: 601051 AET SJ



SVEDEL
G.I.E.

M.V. MARIANTHE
Voy: 1 SB

The above vessel arrived at
Jeddah on

14th December ETD 15th December

Consignees are kindly
requested to take delivery
of their cargo

For any further information please contact:

ALGEZIRAH SHIPPING AGENCIES
P.O. Box 1703 Tel: 6428333/6428529/6428779/6443350
Telex: 400013 GEZIRA SJ

KANOO

Dear Consignees,

YUSUF BIN AHMED KANOO have the pleasure to announce the eta's of the following vessels to the indicated ports on the prescribed dates:

NAME OF VESSELS	SHIPPING LINES	ETA	ARRIVAL PORT
FINIX	O.C.L	18-12-81	Dammam
STRATH ELGIN	O.C.L	22-12-81	Dammam
BOSNA	Jug line	18-12-81	Dammam
MOSCENICE	Jug line	21-12-81	Dammam
SUHL	DSR line	21-12-81	Dammam
ROYAL SAPPHIRE	Showa line	22-12-81	Dammam
THE DAISY	Japan asean line	23-12-81	Dammam

You are requested to collect the delivery orders by submitting your Original Bill of Lading to avoid any delays.



Agents:

Yusuf Bin Ahmed Kanoo

DAMMAM P.O. Box 37 Tel: 8323011 Telex: 601011 KANOO SJ
JUBAIL P.O. B.122 Tel: 8328622 Telex: 631051
RIYADH P.O. Box 753 Tel: 4789495 Telex: 201038 KANOO SJ

VEHICLES WANTED

INTERNATIONAL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY REQUIRE SECOND-HAND 40 - 50 SEATER BUSES FOR IMMEDIATE USE.

IF YOU HAVE SUITABLE, GOOD CONDITION VEHICLES AVAILABLE PLEASE CONTACT OUR MR. J. HILL TELEPHONE RIYADH 401-3584 EXTN.11 BETWEEN 6-30 A.M. and 5.00 P.M. DAILY EXCEPT FRIDAYS.

FOR SALE

20ft & 40ft CONTAINERS
IN GOOD CONDITION

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT MR. TONY WILKINSON,
RIYADH 464-5201 - 464-5202

WANTED

ARABIAN CLEANING ENTERPRISE LTD.

REQUIRES A CLERK/TYPIST 40-60 W.P.M. MINIMUM, TO WORK FOR ARABIAN CLEANING ENTERPRISE LTD.

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT:

DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL,
TEL: 660-0331 - JEDDAH.

BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8:30 A.M. AND 5 P.M.

REQUIRED

National Carpets Factory in Jeddah has immediate openings for the following personnel.

JOB TITLE	NO. OF VACANCIES
1- Mechanical Engineers	2
2- Electricians	2
3- Dye Technicians	2
4- Chemists	2
5- English Typist/Telex Operator	1
6- Arabic Typist/Archivist	1

Preference will be given to Saudi Nationals and those who are in possession of transferable Iqama. Applicants interested should contact National Carpets Factory Administration at the Industrial City or contact Telephone No. 6361925 - Jeddah.

URGENTLY

(Arabian Navigation & Shipping Co. Ltd.)
barberlines

ANNOUNCES

THE ARRIVAL OF THE FOLLOWING VESSELS AT DAMMAM.

VESSEL'S NAME	FROM	CARGO	ARR/ETA
COPPER TRADER	Pakistan	General	15-12-81
JINTO MARU	U.S.A.	Cars	20-12-81
WORLD NOMAD	South America	Timber	27-12-81
AUSTRALIA STAR	N.Zealand Australia	Containers	28-12-81
TOYOTA MARU	U.S.A.	Cars	28-12-81
RYUJIN MARU	U.S.A.	Cars	4-1-82
NEW ZEALAND STAR	N.Zealand Australia	Containers	16-1-82

VESSELS CALLING AT JUBAIL

VESSEL'S NAME	FROM	CARGO	ARR/ETA
STOVE CAMPBELL	Europe	Cement	15-12-81
PACIFIC EXPORTER	Far East	Cement	4-1-82
AL JABALAINE	Far East	Cement	8-1-82

VESSELS SAILED SINCE LAST ANNOUNCEMENT

Alamiriah 9-12-81 - Nada 9-12-81 - Isdemir 9-12-81.



KING OF WATERPROOF WATCHES SWITZERLAND *Mido*

AGENT FOR EASTERN PROVINCE:
Badghush Store, Salim A. Badghush
P.O. Box 65, Al-Khobar, Tel. 86 - J1118

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Jeddah: Royal Trading Co. (03361000)
Dammam: Al-Muhammed Trading Co. (033620184)
Riyadh: Maged Trading Est. (063235156)
Al-Thagha: Badghush Trading Est. (063235156)

FOR SALE

Saudi Korea Stevedoring Co. Ltd. (SAKOS)

Announces the sale of its used motor vehicles and other properties as listed below. This sale is due to the completion of its contract and the items for sale are exhibited at its camp Dammam Port causeway from December 12th, 1981 to December 20th, 1981 between 8 A.M. and 5 P.M.

DESCRIPTION	QTY
Generator 350 KW - 1,450 KW - 2, VTA 1200GC, 1800 GC	3 sets
Copy Machine UBIX Mark II	1
Hyster Forklift for Container, 32 Ton Capacity	1
NCR Computer	1
Steel bed, Files Box, Desk & Chair, Cabinet, Sofa and other Furniture.	

Please contact for further information
Mr. Kang/Admn. Mgr.
Tel: 8332500 Ext: 2495, 2475

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11 - 14 January 1982

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Exhibition Centre Bahrain

on Tel. 250033 for your free trade tickets now.

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MEFEX 82

AND EQUIPMENT EXHIBITION

P.O. Box 20200 BAHRAIN Tlx: 9103 EXHIB BN

3500
12/17

BEETLEBAILEY

WHAT'S THE DATE TODAY?

THE 17th

ARE YOU SURE? LAST FRIDAY WAS THE 12th, I THINK ... IS THIS WEDNESDAY OR THURSDAY?

NOW YOU'RE GETTING ME ALL MIXED UP

DARN! I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO GO LOOK AT MY CALENDAR

12-17

B.L.O.N.D.I.E.

I'VE FIGURED OUT WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE WORLD

NOBODY CARES

WELL, DON'T YOU THINK I'M RIGHT?

I COULDN'T CARE LESS

12-17

B.C.

WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO GIVE MY MOTHER THIS YEAR?

A KIND WORD

I HOPE SHE HAS A STRONG TICKER.

12-17

HADAR

YOU KNOW WHAT I DON'T LIKE ABOUT WINTER?

WHAT?

YOU NEVER SEE ANY BUTTERFLIES

JUST WHEN I THINK I HAVE HIM FIGURED OUT, HE SURPRISES ME

12-17

SMALL SOCIETY

REMEMBER NOW, CLYDE -

DON'T PROMISE ANYTHING WE DON'T STOCK -

12-17

WIZARD

OUR CONDOMINIUM HAS SOMETHING THAT WILL LAST US A LIFETIME -

MONTHLY PAYMENTS -

12-17

SMITH'S TENNIS CLASS

PRESENTING THE ROYAL ENGINEER!

SURE, WITH OUR LATEST TECHNOLOGY, WE STAND AT THE BRINK OF AN INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION!

WELL, DON'T JUST STAND THERE! CALL OUT THE TROOPS

ALL THE PLYERS ARE IN MOTION BEFORE THEY OWN SHOT HAS CROSSED THE NET!

THAT'S WHY THEY'RE ALWAYS READY FOR THE NEXT PLAY.

12-17

DUNAGIN'S PEOPLE

"I PREFER TRAVELING BY CONVENTIONAL JET TO EUROPE, SENATOR... IT GIVES YOU MORE TIME TO THINK OF AN OFFICIAL REASON FOR GOING."

arab news Calendar

SAUDI ARABIA
9:00 Quran
9:15 Religious Program
9:30 News
9:45 Children's Magazine
10:00 Al-Fath Ya Sadiq
10:15 Arabic Series
10:30 World
10:45 Selected Program
11:00 Sports and Youth
11:15 Quran
11:30 Children's Garden
11:45 Religious Program
12:00 Islamic Strides
12:15 English Song
12:30 Ikhlas Lakom, Arabic Program
9:00 Arabic News
9:15 Program Preview
9:30 Arabic Daily Series
9:45 Selected Songs
9:55 The Thursday Night Show, Arabic

Bahrain Channel 55
4:00 Quran
4:15 Religious Talk
4:30 Program Preview
4:45 Quran Series
4:55 Quran
5:00 Football
6:00 Religious Program
7:00 Daily Arabic Series
8:00 Arabic News
9:30 English News
9:45 Tomorrow's Programs
9:50 English Film.

DUBAI Channel 10
5:00 Quran
5:15 Religious Talks
5:30 Quran
6:00 Quran Series
6:30 Children's Series
7:00 Two Faces For 1 Problem
8:00 Local News
8:10 TV Magazine
9:00 Arabic Drama
10:00 World News
10:30 Songs And Program Preview
11:00 Arabic Theater Arabic Film
12:00 English Film
1:30 Close-down

DUBAI Channel 33
6:00 Quran
6:15 Quran
6:30 The News Show
7:00 Little House on the Prairie
7:30 Islamic Horizons
8:00 Local News
8:05 New Land
9:00 The Approaches Instantaneous
10:00 World News
10:25 Last of the Summer Wine
10:30 Dog & Cat
11:40 Poets and Prejudice Tale
7:30 Daily Arabic Series

Bahrain Channel 4
4:00 Quran
4:15 Religious Talk
4:30 Program Preview
4:45 Quran
4:55 Quran
5:00 Football
6:00 Religious Program
7:00 Daily Arabic Series
8:00 Arabic News

Radio Jeddah
Time: Thursday
2:00 Opening
2:01 Holy Quran
2:06 Program Review
2:07 Gems of Guidance
2:12 Light Music
2:15 Top of the Pops
2:25 On Islam
2:25 Bilal's Hot 50
2:55 Light Music
3:00 The News
3:05 Religion
3:15 Reflections on Fasting
3:20 Islam the Divine Truth
3:25 Gardens in Case
3:30 Close-down
Evening Transmission
Time: Thursday
8:00 Opening
8:01 Holy Quran
8:06 Program Preview
8:07 Gems of Guidance
8:12 Light Music
8:15 Music Worldwide
8:45 Pavilion of Peace
8:55 Reflections on Fasting
9:00 Art & Artists
9:30 The News
9:40 S. Chronicle
9:45 Life in Ramadan
9:50 Eve & Her World
10:00 Invitation Card
10:05 World Classics
10:40 Melody Maker
11:00 Concert Choice
11:45 A Rendezvous with
Drama
12:00 Close-down.

Radio Riyadh Francaise Langue
Langues d'audience:
- 74 98 Megaphone
- 1437 Islamic Program
- Megaphone dans le monde des 25ans.
- Oude Magazine 1435
- Kibernet dans le monde des 25ans.
- 8300 Ouverture; Verdict Et
Commentaire;
- 8401 Bonjour;
- 8330 Varietes;
- 8330 Magazine de la Semaine;
- 8945 Musique;
- 1940 Informations; Lumiere sur les Informations.
- 9515 Musique.
- 9530 Les Compagnons du Prochain
- 9645 Varietes;
- 9645 Musique; Culture; Ecran
- 1810 Ouverture; Lumiere sur le Cinema
- 1810 Musique Classique;
- 1815 Arab Radio Rediff
- 1830 Musique Film
- 1845 Panorama
- 1940 Panorama
- 1945 Rayonnes sur le voie de progres
- 1950 Informations; Rue de France.
- 1945 Clozom.

BBC
0100 World News
0309 News about Britain
0315 Radio Newsweek
0330 1st, 8th, 12th, 15th, 19th, 22nd, 29th, Frank Marz
goes into
0415 Outlook
0443 The Art of Biography (on 29th, 30th Irish writers)
0500 World News
0509 British Press Preview
0515 Network U.K.
0530 Assignment
0600 World News
0609 News about Britain
0615 My Music
0700 Newsweek
0730 Classical Record Review (on 13th, International Soccer Special)
0745 Financial News
0755 Reflections
0808 World News
0809 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
0830 The World Today
0850 Newsweek
0900 World News
0940 The Farming World
1000 World News Hours
1009 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary

VOA
0600-0700 Daybreak: News, Regional and Topical Reports
0700-0800 The Breakfast Show: News, Information Presentation
0800-0900 Daybreak/Breakfast Show
1800 News Roundup
1830 VOA Magazine Show
1900 Special English News
1915 Special English Feature: The Making of a Nation
1930 News Magazine
2000 News Roundup
2030 Special English News
2100 Special English News
2110 Special English Science and Technology Report
2115 Special English Feature: The Making of a Nation
2130 News Magazine
2200 News Roundup
2230 VOA Magazine Show
2300 Special English News
2310 Special English Science and Technology Report
2315 Special English Feature: The Making of a Nation
2330 News Magazine
2400 VOA World Report
Monday-Friday (06:00-09:00)
KHz: 15205
11925
7280
7280
5965
1260
Broadcast Frequency (MHz): 6423259
6895751
6673082
6600420

Radio Pakistan
THURSDAY
Morning
Frequencies: 1762, 17845, 1790, 17920, 21485, 21700 (KHz)
Wavelength: 16.98, 16.81, 13.82
Evening
7:45 Religious Program
8:00 News
8:10 Instrumental Music
8:15 Pakistan in Color
8:30 Commentary
9:00 News
9:23 Pakistan's Program Path
9:23 Folk Music

Radio Pakistan
KHz: 15280
15280
11760
9760
6040
5970
49.8
49.8
238

JEDDAH
Al-Berj Pharmacy
King Abdul Aziz Street, near Pasha
6423259
Al-Arabia Pharmacy
Muhammad Fakh Street, branching from Makkah Road
6895751
Makkah Pharmacy
Medina Road, near Juffah
6673082
Al-Anest Pharmacy
Malak Street, behind Princes Abdullah's Palace
6600420

MARKAB
Makkah Pharmacy
Hasan Bakhsh Pharmacy
Al-Aziz Pharmacy
TAR
Al-Anest Pharmacy
Shah's Pharmacy
Al-Alman Pharmacy
REYHAN
Al-Saghal Pharmacy
Al-Machassan Pharmacy
FALOUTA Pharmacy
NEZZAN
Al-Badi Pharmacy
AL-KHOSAR
Al-Homoud Pharmacy
DAMBAM
Maha Pharmacy
Al-Hadjar
Sag Al-Mach
Al-Aziz
Near Health Office
Shah's, near National Club
Near King Fahd Hospital
Mafohous main Street
Al-Aziz Street
Al-Morabba, National Guard Street
Al-Awal Street
near Al-Zahra's Clinic
Prince Yala Street
644988
8328653

Crossword

by THOMAS JOSEPH

40 Heavy blow (sl.)
1 Infant
5 Justification
10 Novelist
11 Mescal cactus
12 Screen
13 Jacket
14 Sam in "Quincy"
15 Jordanian mountain
16 Wood core
17 Felony
19 Tenth of a sen
20 Solitude
21 Cloudy state
22 Drama segment
24 More abject
25 Run along
26 - Alto, Calif.
27 Ring arbiter
28 Aroused
31 Candelnut tree
32 Poem
33 Old note
34 Lethargy
36 Cicatrix
37 Not assembled
38 Detest
39 Having great bulk

1 Rathbone
2 Bryant
3 Violently
4 Devour
5 "Rockford Files" co-star
6 Sailor's assent
7 All being possible
8 Detail
9 More tranquil
10 Heavy blow (sl.)
11 Mescal cactus
12 Screen
13 Jacket
14 Sam in "Quincy"
15 Jordanian mountain
16 Wood core
17 Felony
19 Tenth of a sen
20 Solitude
21 Cloudy state
22 Drama segment
24 More abject
25 Run along
26 - Alto, Calif.
27 Ring arbiter
28 Aroused
31 Candelnut tree
32 Poem
33 Old note
34 Lethargy
36 Cicatrix
37 Not assembled
38 Detest
39 Having great bulk

15 Present
18 Argot
21 Salubrious
22 Layer of rock
23 Italian city
24 Cook
25 Japanese measure
28 Allen
29 Guthrie
29 Spread merriment
30 Bold one
35 Dance step
36 Japanese measure

Yesterday's Answer

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE - Here's how to work it:

AXYDLBAAR
LXONGFELLOW

One letter simply stands for another. In this sample A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

CRYPTOQUOTES

EY CEJC QKGYM CP QKGY
OPAYGYA, TYGYA OYJAM UXKTD.

- SKQQKJH ZYTT

Yesterday's Cryptquote: EVERY DAY IN LIFE IS A LEAF IN YOUR HISTORY. - ARAB PROVERB

Contract Bridge

B. Jay Becker

A Giveaway Plan

North dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 8 5 2
♥ A J 10 4
♦ A J
♣ A K Q 2

WEST
♠ K Q J 10 6
♥ 8
♦ K 9 7 3
♣ 7 6 4

EAST
♠ 3
♥ 6 3
♦ Q 8 6 5 4 2
♣ J 10 9 3

SOUTH
♠ A 9 7 4
♥ K Q 7 5 2
♦ 10
♣ 8 5

The bidding:
North East South West
1♥ Pass 1♥ 1♣
4♥ Pass 4♥ Pass
6♥

Opening lead - king of spades.

Appearances are sometimes deceiving. For example, take this case where South gets to six hearts and it seems that he must lose two spade tricks to go down one. However, declarer can make the slam - and furthermore should make it. He can capitalize on the knowledge he gains from West's spade bid, which informs him that West probably has five spades for his overcall.

Declarer goes on from there to theorize that East very likely has more clubs than West - on the reasonable basis that, if East has one spade and twelve unknown cards, he probably has more clubs among them than West, who has five spades and eight unknown cards.

Having projected this distribution, declarer shapes his play to take advantage of it. He wins the spade lead with the ace, draws two rounds of trumps, cashes the ace of diamonds and ruffs a diamond.

He next cashes the A-K-Q of clubs, discarding a spade, and continues with the deuce of clubs, on which East plays the jack. But instead of ruffing the club, which seems to be the natural thing to do, South discards another spade!

As a result, East finds himself boxed in. He is forced to return a diamond, on which South discards his last spade as he ruffs the return in dummy, thus bringing home the slam.

The outcome is not surprising, for once it is granted that West has five spades and East one, the odds are about 3-to-1 that East has more clubs than West. This in turn means that South is a favorite to make the slam by playing the hand in the recommended fashion.

Your Individual Horoscope

Frances Drake

FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1981

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)
Don't be susceptible to flattery. Self-discipline leads to moderate career progress, but you'll have to ward off potential distractions.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)
You may be unsure of your feelings in romance. Business lunches aren't favored, though a colleague is supportive of your efforts.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
Children may require your help. Avoid carelessness where domestic duties are concerned. Concentrate on ways to increase capital.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
Be careful to observe the social amenities in dealing with others. Some unreliable information may come your way. Don't listen to gossip.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22)
An unrealistic approach to financial matters could cause

trouble. Avoid risky gambles and dubious propositions. Accent savings.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)
You're easily distracted now. Don't let others sway you from your purposes. Co-workers are sensitive and require the utmost tact.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
Don't give way to escapism. Instead, complete unfinished tasks. Daydreaming and a full social life could easily distract you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
Fulfill social obligations, but stay clear of those who waste your time. Don't loan valuables to those who aren't conscientious.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
Some career ideas now being bandied about are not worth pursuing. Seek advice from a trusted business colleague. Avoid self-deception.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
A conservative course is best, with regard to career matters. You could receive faulty advice now. Double-check travel plans.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
You could profit from some expert advice in regard to investment matters. Avoid get-rich-quick schemes and don't be conned by others.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20)
You, or one close to you, could be extravagant. Go over the books together. Make a resolution to get in touch with an old friend.

Believe It or Not!

MIKE BOSSY
N.Y. ISLANDERS GOALY
STAR. SCORED 100 HOCKEY
IN JUST 129 GAMES

CAPE AND MRS. ROBERT B. JEFFSON, JR. ON A VACATION TRIP THROUGH UTAH, COLORADO AND ARIZONA STAYED AT MOTELS ON 6 NIGHTS AND 7 TIMES WERE ASSIGNED UNIT #7

Submitted by Marjorie C. McPherson, Reno, Nev.

THE COLOSSI OF MEMNON
at Thebes, Egypt.
HAVE ON THEIR PEDESTALS THE NAMES OF GREEK TOURISTS OF THE FIFTH CENTURY B.C.

NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER

HOCHTIEF
Aldiengesellschaft - vorm. Geb. Hoffmann

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476 6505

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TLX: 203676 SDG SJ.

wanted

SALES REPRESENTATIVES

With experience of not less than two years in the field of office equipment. Fluency in English language (writing and conversation) is an important requirement.

Please contact on Phones: 6442016 - 6443461, Jeddah.

WANTED
Administrative Assistant

LOCAL AMERICAN COMPANY NEEDS AN EXPERIENCED PERSON WITH AT LEAST 2 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN TYPING AND OFFICE WORK IN SAUDI ARABIA.

TRANSFERABLE IQAMA AND SAUDI DRIVING LICENCE ESSENTIAL. ARABIC SPEAKING PREFERRED.

Send resume to: P.O. Box 1176, Al-Khobar, Saudi Arabia.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:
SAUDI ARABIAN INDUSTRIAL & COMMERCIAL COMPANY,
P.O. BOX: 6126 - JEDDAH - OR
NORBERG THOMPSON, P.O. BOX: 708, GRAND CAYMAN B.W.I.
PHONE NO. 92470.

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Tel: 6602881/6602905
Telex: 403065 BAUER SJ.

DAMMAM OFFICE:
P.O. Box 5478
Tel: 8425084/8426468
Telex: 602248 BAUER SJ.

ALSO: W. Germany Telex: 539912D. U.K. Telex: 848728 G.
EGYPT Telex: 93639

NOTICE

We regret that Mr. Karl Hans Gerlof, West German national, Passport No. D-9403628, issued in Amman - Jordan, dated 6-1-1977, left Buhler Brothers Ltd., P.O. Box: 419, Jeddah on the 15-12-1981. Therefore no individual or government departments should accept his signature on behalf of Buhler Brothers Ltd., from that date onwards.

Anyone who has a commitment with him should contact Buhler Brothers Ltd., within 10 days from publication of this notice.

No commitments concerning Mr. Karl Hans Gerlof will be honoured after expiry of this notice.

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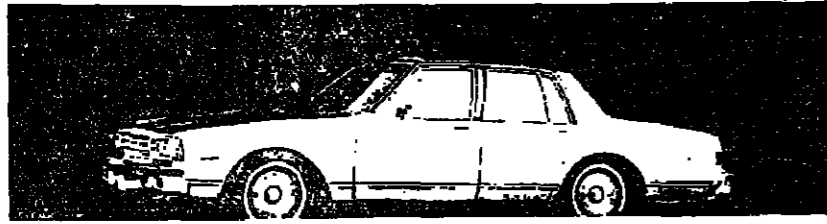
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Radio claims calm

Striking Poles said clashing with army

VIENNA, Dec. 16 (R) — Violent clashes between workers and strike-breaking military authorities were reported from Poland Wednesday but Warsaw radio insisted the country was calm and generally hard at work.

Reports reaching Western diplomats in Bonn said water cannon and baton charges were used against supporters of the Solidarity free trade union by army authorities administering the martial law imposed Sunday. The diplomats said troops and police were brought in to break strikes in Warsaw, Katowice and Gdansk, where there were unconfirmed reports of violence when soldiers moved in to clear the shipyards.

A British businessman arriving in Vienna from southern Poland said that baton-wielding troops attacked a crowd of women outside a barricaded steel mill in Katowice. Several women had their arms broken. The businessman said tanks were apparently used by the authorities in an unsuccessful attempt to break through the barricades at the steel works.

In Moscow, the Soviet news agency Tass said the Polish military had crushed strike attempts in the Baltic ports of Gdansk and Szczecin and the southern industrial town of Wroclaw. At the same time, *Pravda*, the Soviet Communist Party newspaper,

declared that the imposition of martial law had given Poland a chance to solve its problems.

Polish-born Pope John Paul, meanwhile, appealed to the people of his Communist-ruled homeland to return to the road of renewal and dialogue, saying the task was not easy but not impossible. And French President Francois Mitterrand, in a statement to his cabinet, strongly condemned what he called the loss of public and individual freedom in Poland.

Warsaw radio, the voice of Poland's military rulers, portrayed the country as calm and listed a range of communities where it said work was going on normally. Poland's Soviet bloc allies stressed their approval of the drastic military action to restore order in the country and accused the West of responding with blackmail and hypocrisy.

The reports reaching diplomats in Bonn said Polish troops were apparently under orders not to open fire on strikers. No shooting incidents had been recorded since Sunday's crackdown on Solidarity and the detention of many union leaders. Other reports received in London said more than 5,000 persons had been arrested in the military drive designed to reassert Communist authority after months of industrial unrest.

Moscow calls Socialist summit

MOSCOW, Dec. 16 (AFP) — A summit of all Socialist-Bloc countries will be held here Friday, the day before Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's 75th birthday, Dec. 19, East European sources here said Wednesday.

The summit was originally scheduled to begin Saturday and may have been moved up because of events in Poland. Hungarian sources reported that Hungarian Communist Party Secretary Kanos Kadar was travelling to Moscow by train and should arrive Thursday.

No other names of officials attending the summit were announced and it was unknown if Poland would be represented at the summit.

Soviet Germans allowed to leave

MOSCOW, Dec. 16 (R) — Soviet authorities have allowed a sharp increase in emigration by ethnic Germans following President Leonid Brezhnev's visit to Bonn last month, West German officials said Wednesday.

The number of Soviet Germans given visas to leave for West Germany in November was 62, the lowest monthly figure for more than a decade. But the officials said there had already been a "very sharp upward trend" in the first half of this month and the December total was expected to run into several hundreds.

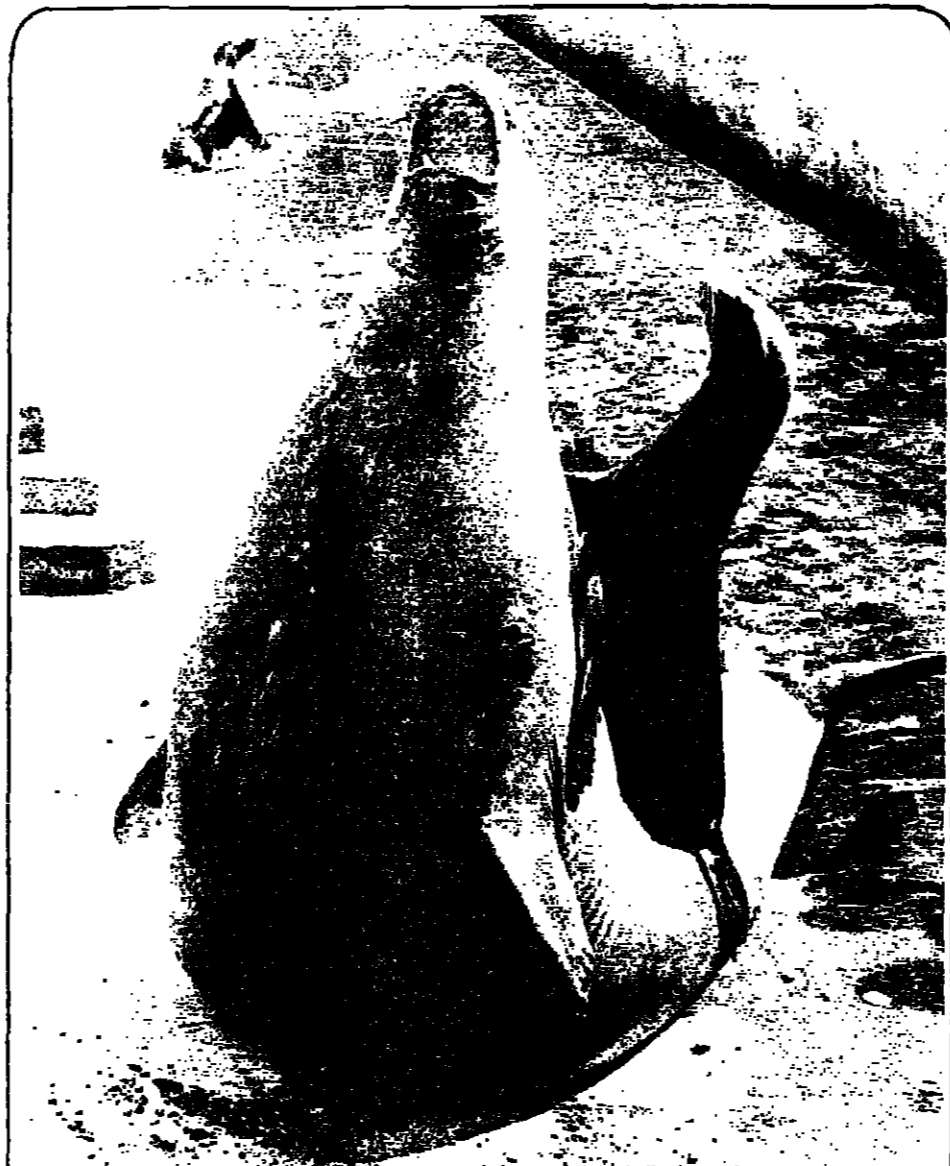
Chancellor Helmut Schmidt raised the question of ethnic German emigration during his talks with Brezhnev last month and urged Moscow to grant more exit visas.

Nearly two million Germans live in the Soviet Union, mostly spread across central Asian regions where they were banished during World War II. More than 100,000 have applied to emigrate to West Germany.

Annual emigration totals averaged more than 9,000 during the mid-1970s but the 1981 figure is expected to be less than 4,000. The Germans make up the second biggest group of emigrants after the Soviet Jews.

94 die in floods

BRASILIA, Dec. 16 (AFP) — Ninety-four persons have died and a reported 2,858 are homeless in the state of Rio De Janeiro after heavy rains unleashed floods and mudslides over the past two weeks, civil defense officials said here Wednesday. Many of the dead were the victims of accidents on roads treacherously slippery from mud. In the city of Rio, more than 1,200 persons were reported homeless.



GET OFF! : Animals, just like humans, have their likes and dislikes. An affectionate little seal wants to be friends, but the elephant seal has other ideas and doesn't appreciate having someone walk on his back. So, he barks to say "hey! get off my back!" The peculiar situation is seen at an Yorkshire zoo, England, where both animals share a pool.

For different reasons

S.Africans remember battle

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 16 (AFP) — Afrikaners and black radicals Wednesday commemorated the 143rd anniversary of the Battle of Blood River, but each group marked the day in different ways and for widely different reasons.

This date illustrates better than any other the growing polarization of South African society.

For the three million white Afrikaners, the descendants of the first Dutch, German and Huguenot settlers, Dec. 16 is the day of the covenant. It is a reminder of the victory of the Voortrekker Andries Pretorius over the proud and valiant Zulu warriors of King Dingaan.

On Dec. 15, 1838, on the eve of this decisive battle (in which the Boers killed more than 3,000 Zulus without losing a single man), Pretorius vowed that the following day would be a day of thanksgiving in the event of victory.

Since then the day of the covenant has been celebrated with fervor each year by the country's "white tribe", and belongs to the great dates in the history of the Afrikaner people, ranking with their 1948 election victory over English-speaking white South Africans.

With a few exceptions the one and a half million English-speaking whites have never actively taken part in the celebrations.

Snowstorm hits U.S.; schools shut

NEW DELHI, Dec. 17 (AP) The second big snowstorm of the week hit the urban northeastern area of the United States Wednesday with foot-deep snows that closed hundreds of schools as 160 mph winds tore across Idaho and Utah, tossing trees into power lines.

The pacific northwest got its first major snowstorm of the season, with 14 inches piling up in parts of Washington. The National Weather Service said still another storm would bring more snow from the west central plains into the mid-Mississippi valley. Snow built at least 12 inches deep across northern New Jersey, upstate New York and into New England. Western Maryland got 8 inches of new snow, with cities such as New York City and Philadelphia getting smaller amounts.

Washington, D.C. got its first measurable snow of the year and several public school systems in the nation's capital shut down. There were numerous reports of snowstorm-related fatalities.

The western storm Tuesday dumped as much as a foot of snow in the Colorado mountains and the northern cascades of Oregon and caused Oregon's rivers to rise toward flood stage.

Blizzards black out U.K. homes

LONDON, Dec. 16 (AP) — Helicopters carrying electricity repair crews fanned out across southwest England and Wales Wednesday to restore power to 65,000 homes still cut off four days after blizzards and hurricane-force winds battered the region.

The death toll from Britain's worst December storm since 1930 rose to at least 27 since the blizzards began eight days ago, officials reported. Although the weather was

Jawara, Diouf to sign treaty on federation

DAKAR, Dec. 16 (AFP) — Gambian President Sir Dawda Jawara is expected here Thursday to sign a treaty setting up the new federation of Senegambia with Senegal.

An agreement in principle to establish the federation was signed a month ago when Senegalese President Abdou Diouf visited the Gambian capital of Banjul, where Senegalese troops put down a coup attempt against the Gambian government on July 30 at Sir Dawda's invitation.

Under the agreement Senegal and Gambia will have joint armed forces, foreign policy and communications, and economic and monetary union. President Diouf would become president of the federation and Sir Dawda vice president.

A "merger" between Senegal and Gambia was recommended by a United Nations mission in 1965, given the geographical situation of the former British colony of Gambia, which stretches up the Gambia River from the west coast and almost cuts French-speaking Senegal in two. Both countries have the same ethnic population.

Malta opposition 'gets' more votes

VALLETTA, Malta, Dec. 16 (AP) — Nationalist Party leader Eddie Fenech Adami said that although the Malta Labor Party got 34 of the 65 seats in Saturday general election, his party had obtained 51 percent of the votes.

He told a press conference at party headquarters that since his party got the majority of votes, Labor leader Dom Mintoff should not accept a mandate to form a new government.

Fenech Adami said the Nationalists would now act according to the Labor Party's reaction when Mintoff is called by the president to form a new government.

Fenech Adami said his party had obtained over 4,000 votes more than the Labor Party. "It is evident that the Maltese people have chosen the Nationalist Party program and cast aside that of the Labor Party," Fenech Adami said.

He attributed the creation of a situation where one party had such a majority of votes and loss of seats to jerry-mandering in the revision of electoral boundaries and recalled that the Nationalists had objected to such changes in February.

Election officials said there was no delay in counting the votes. In the 1976 elections, it took two days to count the ballots and there were 30,000 more voters this time.

Good Morning

By Jihad Al Khazem

It doesn't mesh; it gets usually nowhere; it goes this way and that like ping-pong conversation, I mean, that art of non-communication. You tell me your story and I'll cap it. I'll trump it. I'll turn it inside out and present back to you. So this happened to you and you call it bad? Well, just listen to what happened to me.

The man perhaps wanted some solace from you, or advice. But no! He gets back the same story with a cherry on top. To wait for a meaning to unfold, to listen carefully then give a reasoned answer, or perhaps a witty one, that's beyond most people. Even silence, at times, is a real and sufficient answer. But how many can stay silent?

There was that man going on against his friend. "It's all wrong. I tell you," he was saying. "You failed because you mishandled it from the start." The friend tries to respond. "Look at the facts," first, he says, "you can't really judge without the facts." "You listen to what I'm telling you," the other says, "and don't confuse me with facts!" That's it. The essence of conversation: just get it off your chest. Never mind about the facts.

Harry Truman, once president of the United States, told a friend of his once that no one ever listens to what you tell them at parties. They don't pay attention to names as people introduce themselves. They don't allow what you say to sink in. All they do is smile at you when you smile and murmur something when you murmur.

His friend disagreed. "So Truman demonstrated the fact. He stood at the reception shaking hands with everyone and saying, 'I just killed my grandma.'" To which everyone smiled absently and said things like "how nice" and "I hope you're well."

All except one. The last social animal around. Who said "she must've deserved it."

Translated from Ashraf Al-Awsat

Brezhnev seeks 'equal' U.S. ties

MOSCOW, Dec. 16 (AFP) — Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev told American business magnate Armand Hammer here Wednesday that the sole basis possible for Soviet-U.S. relations was "complete equality" and "strict observance of the principle of identical security," radio Moscow reported.

At a Kremlin meeting, Brezhnev told Occidental Petroleum chief Hammer that he appreciated "in a positive way" the start of Soviet-American talks in Geneva on nuclear arms limitation in Europe, the radio said.

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